

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

BOARD MEETING

JULY 5-6, 1990

WARREN POL

CHAIRMAN

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

LA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
JULY 5-6, 1990

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MINUTES OF MEETING

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

JULY 5-6, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, July 5, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Mr. Joe Palmisano was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Friday, July 6, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Mr. Joe Palmisano was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the Minutes of the June 7-8, 1990 Commission Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Warren Pol advised that he had asked that the item **Outside Contracts** be put on the agenda. The department has a lot of contracts with outside institutions which amount to quite a bit of money (around a million dollars). Chairman Pol had requested that Dr. Clark gather information on the outside contracts to see if money could be saved if these were done by in-house people. Chairman Pol stated that he realizes that there are some services the department cannot do but in his opinion he does not believe the department is getting a million dollars worth. Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark to go over this item with the Commission and explain to them what could be done.

Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners that the packet of materials that they had each received were from the Office of Fisheries and he did not prepare any other materials for any other contracts.

The Office of Fisheries contracts probably total six to eight hundred thousand dollars this year advised Dr. Clark and each packet list the individual contracts and discusses what each of the contracts are in principle and why the original contract was signed.

Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark if in his opinion did he think the department could do most of this in-house? Dr. Clark stated that with current personnel and current head count it could not be done in-house; however, Ms. Baker has advised that as far as doing contract research the department can hire temporary employees to conduct specific research projects. Dr. Clark stated that if the Commission would ask him straight up if the department could do a lot of the research with additional people the answer is yes and if they ask him if he thought the department should do it the answer would be yes. Dr. Clark commented that he would rather have the staff do the work in-house than to contract it out. Chairman Pol asked if most of the contracts were automatically renewed every year depending on the federal participation? Dr. Clark stated that he would not say most because most of these are not recurring contracts.

Mr. Jenkins asked where the source of the funds (\$755,000) come from to do the projects? Dr. Clark answered that the principle source is federal funds, the second principle source would be LOOP (Louisiana Offshore Oil Port) funds and the rest would be state funds and other funds. Mr. Jenkins asked if the department had the people that were qualified to work on these projects on staff, would there be any trouble obtaining the funds? Dr. Clark answered no. Chairman Pol asked if funds were obtained before the contracts are let? Dr. Clark answered yes. Mr. Jenkins commented that since these research entities make applications to the department for these funds, which then go to them, couldn't the department make the same applications for these jobs and hire the appropriate people. Dr. Clark advised that actually this is what the department already does with some that are subcontracted by the department and gave the Shrimp Management Plan (MARFIN) as an example. Chairman Pol stated that one thing he wanted to make clear to Secretary Van Sickle and Dr. Clark is that this is in no way meant to hurt anybody but what he is thinking of is what is best for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and asked Secretary Van Sickle if there were many other contracts like these that are let out? Secretary Van Sickle advised not really, this was the bulk of them. In the Office of Fisheries, even though there may be \$700,000 worth of contracts only \$213,000 are state funds. The bulk of these contracts are federal monies. Projects such as MARFIN, these monies usually go to universities to do research around the country and Louisiana universities work in cooperation with the department to write joint proposals for projects advised Secretary Van Sickle. In every state in the country there is a university, generally their flagship university like LSU, that is designated to have a Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

at that university. Secretary Van Sickle pointed out that at LSU the federal government puts up \$300,000, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries puts up \$66,000 and the university gives them a lot of in-kind contributions such as space, etc. amounting to about a half million dollar program. The first contract was written back in 1962-63 to train more people in the fish and wildlife field and a lot of the department's personnel came from this project advised Secretary Van Sickle. This is one project that the department could never do because it is not a university stated Secretary Van Sickle.

Chairman Pol stated that according to Title 56 the Commission is suppose to review all outside contracts and pointed this out in the Title 56 publication. Also, it has been ruled by the Attorney General that the Commission review outside contracts but the Commission has never been able to look at these contracts. Chairman Pol thinks that the Commission should be allowed to do this. Secretary Van Sickle asked Chairman Pol, how would the Commission like to start? Chairman Pol stated that he would let her know. Mr. Jenkins asked about the dates of contracts and also if on an ongoing basis, year in and year out, would the total for contracts this year be a normal year or is this more than usual or less than usual and what could the department look forward to if it undertakes to do this and to have X amount of income to support this. Dr. Clark advised that this is not a normal year, it is more than usual. Ms. Baker stated that she could address two of the questions. She advised that whether these were 89-90 or 90-91 contracts, that a lot of these contracts roll over, they go over fiscal years and it is hard to isolate its particulars. These are contracts that are in place right now, advised Ms. Baker and she pointed out that some of the dollars came out of last year's budget which just ended on June 30 and some of the payments will come out of the next fiscal year. Addressing the second question on what looks like a normal year Ms. Baker advised that vendor files were pulled for the period that the department had vendor files in resident which goes back for two years. Last year \$655,000 was paid out in contracts to LSU and the year before that it was right at \$450,000. This is an extremely high period of time that the department is in contract wise relative to the immediate past years but somewhere in that half million dollar range is a baseline for contracts with LSU stated Ms. Baker. Secretary Van Sickle asked Dr. Clark what caused the increase between \$655,000 and \$755,000. Dr. Clark advised the three contracts that had been added most recently, were not on the original list, were the LSU Coastal Fisheries, SEAMAP and the Tuna, Shark and MARFIN plans. Mr. Jenkins asked if there was some way that the last two or three years of these contracts could be reviewed, pick out what the department could do and look at what sort of income could be diverted to the department to do these projects on an ongoing basis year in and year out? Dr. Clark commented that he believes the funds could be classified as types and make some sort of prediction as to whether or not they are ongoing or whether they are likely

to remain ongoing or whether or not they are truly one of a kind type of funds. Mr. Jenkins suggested that this might be one thing to do to get a handle on this issue. Chairman Pol suggested that since everybody has the packet that Dr. Clark distributed that between now and the next Commission meeting that the Commissioners read over the materials and then come back and discuss this with Secretary Van Sickle and Dr. Clark then decide from there what needs to be done. Dr. Clark pointed out that the packet only includes Office of Fisheries contracts. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission wants to get involved in reviewing the department's contracts, which the Commission has never done to her knowledge in the past, she will need some guidance from them as to how much involvement they want, such as how soon they want to get involved and at what level of detail because for this fiscal year the budget has the contracts already listed which may present a problem. Chairman Pol advised that they will let Secretary Van Sickle know what they will want done.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett discussed and presented to the Commission a resolution on Road Closure on West Bay Wildlife Management Area. Mr. Prickett reported that one of the most important and successful programs of the department has been the establishment and development of the wildlife management area system throughout the state and presently there are 38 wildlife management areas. These areas are opened to the public for hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation and furnish a wide variety of activities for the state's outdoor recreation. Wildlife management areas, in years to come, will have to be put to the best possible use to deliver the maximum potential of the wildlife resources. The West Bay WMA area is located in North Central Allen Parish, consists of 55,185 acres and is privately owned, advised Mr. Prickett. The lease which is obtained from timber companies (Boise Cascade Corporation, Kirby Forest Industries, Incorporated and Quatre Parish Lumber Company) without charge to the state gives the department the right to manage wildlife on the area. There are over 300 miles of roads and 60 points of entrances into the area and to better manage the wildlife within this area the department feels it is necessary to reduce the number of roads and entrances and restrict the hunting from roads open to vehicular traffic. This action is important toward improving and maintaining wildlife populations, help in the enforcement of rules and regulations while providing a safety margin for the public utilizing this area. The following restrictions will be implemented to accomplish these goals on West Bay WMA:

- 1) Installation and maintenance of 53 gates and allow only 7 entrance points into the area.
- 2) Reduce the number of roads for public use from 300 miles to approximately 125 miles. Interior road closures will be maintained with road restriction signs.

- 3) Restrict hunting from roads open to public vehicular traffic.
(No hunting allowed 100 feet from center line of road)
- 4) Installing and maintaining information booths to inform the public of new regulations and activities occurring on the area.
- 5) Print new maps showing entrance points and roads open to vehicular traffic for public use while on West Bay WMA.

The implementation of these new regulations on West Bay WMA are in conjunction with the landowners and with the public's support, will help in the management of the wildlife resources while providing better recreational opportunities to the outdoorsmen concluded Mr. Prickett.

After a short discussion on this issue Chairman Pol advised that final action on the resolution would be taken Friday.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Prickett presented the resolution on road closures on West Bay WMA. Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously. Mr. Jones asked if the roads could be utilized with food plots and new growth around the edge since they will be out of active service for the most part? Mr. Prickett informed Mr. Jones that this is exactly what the department would like to do but West Bay does have one other problem; it has free ranging livestock on the area. A couple of years ago the companies asked the department to tell them what needed to be done on that area to have a first class wildlife program. Recommendations were made on how the timber should be managed, the fact that the livestock needed to be removed from the area, and road closures. At this time the companies do not feel that they can get the cattle off of the area. Dr. Hines asked if the roads that will be left were going to be kept up better than they have in the past? Mr. Prickett answered the road closures will allow the department to do a little more maintenance.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

Resolution

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in conjunction with Boise Cascade, Kirby Forest Industries, and Quatre Parish wish to maximize wildlife populations and public enjoyment of West Bay Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, all of the above parties responsible for the management of West Bay agree that the current 320 mile road system is greatly in excess of the roads necessary to provide adequate public access and that said excess causes undue disturbance to resident wildlife, and

WHEREAS, this 320 mile road system with 63 entrances onto West Bay inhibits the proper enforcement of wildlife laws and WMA regulations, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission concurs with the aforementioned companies and Department staff in closing certain roads and entrances as indicated on the attached map of West Bay Wildlife Management Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol, Chairman

At this point during Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle announced that she had to leave the Commission meeting for about half an hour and Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis would be taking her place and could always speak on the department's behalf.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett presented the Dates for the Migratory Bird Seasons to be set by the Commission. Mr. Prickett reported that this is webless migratory birds and does not include waterfowl. The department is making a tentative recommendation to the Commission today for seasons and the reason it is being done today is so that something can be printed in the hunting pamphlet which is being held up until direction is received from the Commission on the seasons. Next month the department will come back to the Commission with an emergency declaration to set these seasons plus the waterfowl seasons. Mr. Prickett gave background information on dove seasons in Louisiana. There are about 80,000 hunters with roughly 2 million birds harvested a year. There are a couple of different ways to set dove season, both the length and bag limit. There are a couple of different options that the state has, one is a 70-day season with a 12-bird bag limit which traditionally Louisiana has taken and a 60-day season with a 15-bird bag limit. A number of the southeastern states have taken the other option but Louisiana hunters have indicated to the department that they prefer the greater days with a lesser bag limit. This is what the department is recommending to the Commission stated Mr. Prickett. Another issue is whether or not to allow all day shooting, sunrise to sunset. In 1986 a compromise was struck by the Commission and the sportsmen which made the opening two days of each split half day hunting, 12 noon to sunset. The remainder of the days were all day hunting, sunrise to sunset. The department has been in this posture since 1986 and Mr. Prickett advised that the department is recommending to the Commission that

they stay in this posture. The department does not see a biological difference and does not believe changing it one way or the other is going to make any difference in the population of doves. Dates for dove season are recommended as follows:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>
Sept. 1-9	9 days	12
Oct. 13 - Nov. 11	30 days	12
Dec. 8 - Jan. 7	<u>31 days</u>	12
	70 Total	

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, October 13-14, and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12 noon to sunset.

Mr. Jenkins asked if the department has received any comments on going to the 60-days, 15-doves limit because he has had a couple of people ask him about this and also asked about the comment that Mr. Prickett made about it not making any difference biologically if you hunted all day or half a day. Mr. Prickett stated that the department believes that dove hunters hunt when there are doves available and traditionally the greatest effort is on the opening weekend so going to half-day hunting as opposed to all day hunting will not change the harvest much. Dr. Hines stated that one of the reasons for going to all day hunting is that a lot of the farmers had asked the department to consider all day hunting because they cannot get into the field until 9 or 10 in the morning because of the dew and work until 7 or 8 at night.

Chairman Pol stated that he had received a letter from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation objecting to the all day hunting and they have recommended that the shooting hours go from noon until sunset. Chairman Pol asked if there was anybody who would like to address this subject.

Mr. Chuck Sabeto, President of the Acadiana Sportsmen's League, addressed the Commission. Mr. Sabeto advised that he was not just representing dove hunters from southwest Louisiana but dove hunters from all over the state. In 1985 the Acadiana Sportsmen's League took a survey of some 2,200 hunters throughout the state which showed 71 percent for afternoon dove hunting only and 85 percent for 70-days, 12-bird limit. The shorter waterfowl seasons are putting a bigger strain on the dove with more people hunting dove. A petition was presented to the Commission signed by persons who favored the afternoon dove hunting only shooting hours and Mr. Sabeto asked the Commission to take this into consideration when setting the seasons.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Sabeto since he was associated with dove hunters from all over the state if there was ever a question presented to them that would say 60-days total dove hunting days

and 15 bag limit? Mr. Sabeto answered yes and they responded they would rather go with the 70-days, 12-bird limit. Mr. Jones asked how the survey was taken. Mr. David Boudreaux, Secretary of Acadiana Sportsmen's League addressed Mr. Jones' question. Back in 1984 the club instituted a migratory game bird hunting survey which dealt with all aspects of waterfowl and migratory game bird hunting and it had questions involving dove hunting. The surveys were sent out in the mail, distributed to sporting good stores and placed in newspapers throughout the state with over 2,200 responses to the questionnaire. Going through the findings of the survey it was found that 71 percent of hunters wanted afternoon hunting and 85 percent wanted the 70 days, 12 bird limit. At the time of the survey the hunters preferred more days than three more birds in a bag limit. Response on the survey came from Lake Charles, Sulphur, Jennings, Crowley, Alexandria, Monroe, Shreveport, New Orleans, Ponchatoula, etc. Mr. McCall advised that he has had four or five call this past week asking for all day hunting instead of half a day from the Lake Charles area. Mr. Boudreaux stated that within the bulk of the hunters that they have talked to in the last few weeks that 90 percent want the afternoon only. Mr. Boudreaux suggested that as a compromise the September split be maintained and the rest of the seasons could be on an all day basis because of the heat involved and the other splits could be afternoon only. Mr. Boudreaux pointed out that they are hearing a lot of talk from the farmers saying that they are having many problems with the all day hunting. Concluding, Mr. Boudreaux stated that they would entertain a compromise for the September season being all day if the other two seasons were half days.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Prickett if the department had a survey. Mr. Prickett advised that one had been done in 1983 and in 1984 with each being a little different because the seasons were set different. The first survey showed 58 percent of the people who responded preferred all day hunting and 42 percent preferred the half-day. The second survey showed 25 percent liked the compromise season, 38 percent preferred all day and 37 percent preferred half-day. There were 13,009 license buyers receiving survey forms in 1983 and approximately the same in 1984.

Chairman Pol asked the Commission how they felt about the shooting time. Dr. Hines and Mr. Jones stated that they thought it should be left like it is with Mr. Jones commenting that basically dove fields, for the most part, are privately held as far as hunting privileges are concerned and if a person prefers not to hunt in the morning he has that choice. Mr. Prickett pointed out that the Eastern Management Unit, which Louisiana is a part of, is the only management unit that has entertained afternoon only hunting for doves. All the rest of the management units have had all day hunting for doves. Mr. Jones asked what were the bag limits in surrounding areas. Mr. Prickett advised that in the north half of Alabama they take the 60-days, 15-bird option, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee are the other states that also

take that option. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Prickett if the Commission wanted to look at 60-days, 15-birds did he have a recommendations on the dates. The dates would be the following advised Mr. Prickett. September 1-9, October 20 - November 11, and December 15 - January 11. All of these would open on a Saturday and close on a Sunday with the exception of January 11 which is a Thursday. Mr. McCall stated that he thought the seasons and shooting hours should be left like they are. Mr. Vujnovich stated to leave it like it is.

Mr. Bo Barb, Lake Charles, addressed the Commission. Mr. Barb asked the Commission to leave the season like it is because for years people worked to get the compromise.

Mr. Richard Judice, Lake Charles, addressed the Commission. He wants the Commission to keep the 70 days, 12 birds with all day hunting.

Chairman Pol called for motion. Dr. Hines made a motion to set the dove season as recommended which is September 1 - 9, October 13 - November 11 and December 8 - January 7 for 70 days with a bag limit of twelve and shooting hours to be one hour before sunrise to sunset except on the opening weekend of each split, Sept. 1-2, October 13-14 and December 8-9 when shooting hours would be from 12 noon to sunset. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Mr. Prickett went on to present the recommendations for rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe. These recommendations are as follows:

Rails:	Nov. 17-Jan. 20	65 days	15
Gallinules:	Nov. 17-Jan. 20	65 days	15
Woodcock :	Dec. 1-Feb. 3	65 days	5
Snipe:	Nov. 10-Feb. 24	107 days	8

Shooting hours would be 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any comments from the audience or any questions by the Commission.

Chairman Pol called for motion. Mr. Jones made a motion to adopt the recommended dates, days, bag limits and shooting hours for rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe as presented by Mr. Prickett. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison Announced the 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition. The species that has been chosen as the featured species for the design is the woodduck. The competition rules and regulations are unchanged from last year but the artist will be given more time to create their paintings and the artwork will have to be in by October 25th. The judging of the competition

is being planned for November 1st. Mr. Morrison pointed out that November 1st is the first Thursday of the month which is usually the first day of the Commission meeting and he would like to have the competition to judge the artwork on the morning of November 1st and announce the winner at 1 p.m. prior to the Commission meeting. The artwork will be set up in the Louisiana Room so that people may view it prior to the announcement of the winner. This is something Mr. Morrison would like the Commission to consider. They can either have it on the 1st or the Wednesday prior to it. The woodduck was chosen because it is a resident bird and probably one of the most attractive of the North American waterfowl species. Mr. Jones asked if the competition was only for Louisiana artists and the status of the bill on the legislature on residency requirements. Mr. Morrison advised that the Louisiana artist requirements will be continued for an additional two years but there was an amendment to the bill that says it may include former residents of the state which opens it up a little bit. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Morrison what his feelings were about the Louisiana artist stipulation and what kind of effect it will have monetarily on the duck stamp program. Mr. Morrison stated that the history of the duck stamp program shows that the states that have started out commissioning an artist are the ones with the most profitable programs. Texas and Arkansas are two states that commission their artists. The second most effective mechanism for choosing the artwork is by national competition where the competition is opened to everybody across the United States. The third method, which Louisiana has, is residency requirements where only residents of the state can enter the competition. Mr. Morrison stated that monetarily, speaking Texas started out their first of state in excess of sixteen thousand prints, with the second year falling off to about eight thousand and have leveled off to between seven and eight thousand prints per year. Typically the number of prints sold of duck stamp designs are directly proportional to the notoriety of the artist, pointed out Mr. Morrison. In Louisiana, last year, a record was set for first of state with an excess of seventeen thousand prints being sold. The preliminary indications for this year is that the number of prints sold will be below twenty five hundred. What is being looked at over the long run is that with the continued residency requirements the state will continue to see a decline in the market because the bulk of the prints last year were sold nationally. Of the seventeen to eighteen thousand that were sold there were only around five thousand sold in Louisiana and with the first of state gone the national market will decline leaving resident purchases to be relied on explained Mr. Morrison. By maintaining an artist that has a national recognition print sales continue to be high. Mr. Morrison stated that the bottom line is, with the residency requirements, the prints sales will decline in the state in the next three to four years to around five hundred and it will not generate any substantial funds for the program. The bulk of the money that will be generated from the program will be from the sale of stamps to duck hunters commented Mr. Morrison. Mr. Jones asked

Mr. Morrison if what he is saying is that a national contest, with Louisiana artists being able to enter, would create a larger ray of artists, and that Mr. Morrison feels confident that the state would benefit in receiving more money through the print program. Mr. Morrison answered very much so, simply because the competition will have to be the best and the artwork will maintain a higher level. If residency is required the artists realize they are competing among themselves and a lot of times they might not put forth their greatest efforts, but if there is a national competition not only Louisiana artists are allowed to compete but also artists from outside will be competing. This would keep the spirit of competition alive. Mr. Jones stated that it is a fair statement in saying that the department thinks that it is probably a detriment to the duck stamp and print program to have Louisiana artists only in it, that fewer funds would be received than possibly if there was a national contest. Mr. Morrison answered that in his judgment the program will suffer with the residency requirements. It was pointed out by Mr. Jones and Mr. Morrison that this would not exclude Louisiana artists but if it were a nationwide contest it would be in the best interest of Louisiana artists simply because if a Louisiana artist wins he would be the best of the best. With the residency requirements that are now in effect, if a Louisiana artist wins he has only competed against Louisiana artists and is not really certain what his statute is but when he competes against the national level it adds credit to his stock. Mr. McCall asked how many artists competed last year. The first year it was forty five and last year it was forty eight, answered Mr. Morrison. Concluding, Mr. Morrison asked the Commission what their feelings were on the date for the competition and if it would create any problem. Chairman Pol stated that he does not see where any problems would be created and that the date was fine.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison gave a Report on the 1990 Turkey Season Results and held the Drawing for Guns. Mr. Morrison informed the Commission that there will be a drawing for shotguns as a result of the voluntary check station. The shotguns are 870 Remington Expresses which have been donated by three Wild Turkey Federation chapters in the state. These chapters are the Cenla Fantails, Alexandria, the Northcentral Chapter, Ruston, and the Four Rivers Chapter, Jonesville. The names that will be drawn appeared on the voluntary check forms that were distributed across the state to check in wild turkeys. There were approximately fifteen hundred twenty turkeys weighed in last year which represents 20-25 percent of the total harvest. At this point during the meeting the drawing for the shotguns took place. Those winning numbers were: 690 - Mr. Jeff Hunter, Baton Rouge, LA; 560 - Mr. J. A. Givens, Wilma (Tangipahoa), LA; 1469 - Monti Perritt, Arcadia, LA. Concluding, Mr. Morrison informed the Commission that the department will contact the winners.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett reported on the Land Acquisition Program. Mr. Prickett informed the Commission that the department has been working on obtaining two tracts of land for almost two years. One tract is about five hundred acres which joins Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area and the other tract joins Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area. The Pointe-au-Chien tract will join the now divided wildlife management area together pointed out Mr. Prickett. Both of these tracts of land were acquired by the Nature Conservancy in behalf of the department. The department is now in a position to acquire the lands back from the Nature Conservancy which will require action from the Commission. Mr. Prickett explained the new mechanics involved in purchasing land. In the past the Secretary of the department had the unqualified authority to buy land at any price agreed on with a willing seller. Act 282 in last year's legislature changed this and now the Commissioner of Administration is required to be a part of any land transaction. To be sure that there is balance on all deeds henceforth not only will the names of the Secretary and Commissioner of Administration appear on the document but also the Chairman of the Commission. This is the reason why this resolution is being presented to the Commission today and in the future the department will be asking the Commission to approve any land that is acquired in the form of a resolution rather than verbally, stated Mr. Prickett. Dr. Hines asked how much was paid for the land. Mr. Prickett answered around two hundred forty thousand dollars for five hundred four acres at Loggy Bayou and seven hundred sixty eight thousand dollars for the seventeen hundred ninety nine acres at Pointe-au-Chien. Tracts were purchased based on appraisals. Both tracts were acquired from the Nature Conservancy. Chairman Pol called for a motion. Mr. Jones made a motion to accept the resolution for purchasing lands for the Loggy Bayou WMA and the Pointe-au-Chien WMA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, the Department and the State have been previously authorized funding to acquire 1,799.38 acres in Terrebonne Parish as part of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and 504.03 acres in Bossier Parish as part of Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to take such steps as necessary to complete the acquisition of these tracts of wildlife habitat.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol, Chairman

Mr. Prickett went on to present the next resolution on a land donation of six hundred eighty acres near the city of Monroe. A most generous lady named Floy McElroy Henry has a beautiful piece of wildlife habitat and she wants to insure that the land will be managed from now on the way that she is currently managing it, stated Mr. Prickett. For this reason, Mrs. McElroy Henry has offered to donate this property to the department and this resolution will authorize the Secretary and the Chairman to accept the donation explained Mr. Prickett. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the six hundred eighty acres being donated by Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry near the city of Monroe. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hines and passed unanimously. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Prickett to thank Mrs. Henry from the Commission. Mr. Prickett stated that he has talked with Secretary Van Sickle and she was going to ask the Commission if they would like to have one of the early fall Commission meetings in north Louisiana where a dedication ceremony could be scheduled to give Mrs. Henry some recognition. The Commission stated that this would be fine.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports the acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these resources, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry has offered the donation of 680.96 acres of productive wildlife habitat known as the White Island Plantation in Richland Parish to insure that these acres will be forever managed to benefit the wildlife resources and public of Louisiana, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to accept this donation of property from Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of this generous donation

the tract shall be dedicated as the Floy Ward McElroy Wildlife Management Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol, Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver presented a Notice of Intent for the Fur Harvest Season. Mr. Tarver informed the Commission that as of this date he could not give a report on the last fur seasons because the audits have not been completed and they were having difficulty receiving, from the Sheriff's Offices, the exact number of licenses that were sold. Mr. Tarver presented a resolution and a notice of intent to the Commission for the establishment of the 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season. The South Zone will be December 1 - February 28; the North Zone will be November 20 - February 15. There will be an experimental season from February 16 - March 15 for padded jaw traps. Mr. Jones asked about the latest status on padded jaw traps and people refusing the purchase of hides from improper traps. Mr. Tarver commented that the business of fur trapping has come under attack by the animal rights groups of various types. There was a referendum passed at a meeting held in Aspen, Colorado and it won two to one to allow the sale of furs taken by steel jaw leghold traps. There is a move in the European community, the EEC, to ban the use of products caught with a steel jaw leghold traps. Last year the EEC tried through a resolution, through the Trade Commission of England, to prevent the sale of furs taken by the use of steel jaw leghold traps in England which failed and now they are coming back to go through the whole community. Canada and the U.S. have been fighting this battle all along and will continue to do so. The animal rights activists have had some limited impact in terms of the fur sale. If the ability is lost to trap animals in Louisiana the main control of the exotic rodents (nutria) will be lost. Research is being continued on the soft jaw (padded) trap and part of the purpose for having the extension of trapping season is to allow this trap to be used, stated Mr. Tarver.

A motion was made by Dr. Hines to adopt the resolution and notice of intent on the 1990-91 fur harvest season. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
JULY 5, 1990
1990-91 FUR HARVEST SEASON

WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase the importance in our state; and

WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and

WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment of otter and bobcat furs will require placement of a possession tag by trappers, buyers, or dealers to insure state of origin; and

WHEREAS, The zonation concept has continued to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season within the State of Louisiana. The Notice of Intent attached to and made part of this Resolution is hereby approved.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the notice of
intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The fur industry of Louisiana is the result of a major wildlife resource and provides supplemental income for many of the citizens of our state: and as this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance; annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with sound wildlife management principles.

The creation of a north and south trapping zone continues to allow for the most efficient harvest of prime furbearers in these two diverse habitat types within the state. Therefore, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being

December 1, 1990 through February 28, 1991. After carefully considering the market situation for some upland species, especially the raccoon, the Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1990 through February 15, 1991, with the addition of an experimental season in the north zone from February 16, 1991 through March 15, 1991, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps) or their equivalent. The Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season in any portion of the state as biologically justifiable.

Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority for otter and bobcat furs continue to require attachment of an export tag on each of these species prior to out-of-state shipment.

~~The regulations~~ governing the annual statewide trapping program adopted for the 1990-91 trapping season may be viewed at Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, phone: (504) 765-2811.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Johnnie Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:260.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

Chairman Pol requested Mr. Tarver to call Mr. Roger Vincent, Jr. and give him the dates for alligator season.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver presented a Emergency Declaration for the Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest and the Notice of intent for the Alligator Harvest Program Regulations. Mr. Tarver presented a resolution for a emergency declaration to set the alligator harvest season. This resolution will set in place the alligator season that will begin September 1 and close September 30. Mr. Tarver explained the document pertaining to the rules and regulations on the alligator harvest program. The only change in the document is the twenty five dollar fee for persons picking up alligator eggs. The persons picking up the eggs are told exactly how many eggs can be picked up and on what property they can pick them up on. A resolution was presented by Mr.

Tarver for the notice of intent on the alligator harvest program regulations. The Fur and Alligator Council and the Alligator Task Force has concurred with these documents along with Legal Division, and Enforcement Division stated Mr. Tarver.

Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made to adopt the two resolutions, emergency declaration and notice of intent on the alligator harvest program by Mr. McCall. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is made a part of the record)

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
JULY 5, 1990
1990-91 ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS AND SEASON

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish an alligator season; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the emergency regulations for administering all aspects of the 1990 alligator season which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the declaration of emergency is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

ALLIGATOR SEASON REGULATIONS

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set the alligator season, and R.S. 56:260, and action by the Commission on July 6, 1990, the alligator season is hereby established in accordance with the following regulations:

A. Purpose.

These regulations are to govern the taking, possession, selling, raising and propagation of alligators statewide, both in ~~the wild and in captivity~~. They are enacted to prevent depletion or waste, while enhancing utilization of this renewable resource. These regulations are based upon scientific study and population monitoring and are consistent with federal requirements to qualify alligators and alligator parts from Louisiana for international export under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Alligators in Louisiana are not endangered but their similarity in appearance to endangered crocodilian species requires controls on commerce to minimize illegal trafficking of these species and to regulate and maintain the wild population of alligators. These regulations provide rules to enhance alligator farming operations; establish the methods of alligator harvest; establish minimum facility requirements for alligator farming; regulate commerce in alligators, eggs and parts; streamline necessary reporting requirements; and, establish a regulated nuisance alligator control program.

B. Definitions.

The following words and phrases for purposes of these regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, unless the context wherein the particular word or phrase is used clearly indicates a different meaning:

1. Alligator - American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis).

2. Alligator Egg Collection Permit - A permit issued by the Department allowing for the collection of alligator eggs on designated properties described as part of the permit. The permit will be signed by the Secretary or his designee, the permittee and the landowner/land manager.

3. Alligator Farm - An enclosed area, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications and requirements set by the Department, where alligators are bred, propagated, or raised as a commercial enterprise under controlled conditions.

4. Alligator Farmer - A properly licensed person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the Department. An alligator farmer must possess a valid nongame quadruped breeder's license.

5. Alligator Hunter - A properly licensed resident or nonresident person who takes wild alligators.

6. Alligator Part - Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except hides tagged pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations including the laws and regulations of the United States Government, the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

7. Alligator Parts Dealer - Any properly licensed person who deals in alligator parts and who:

(a) Buys from an alligator hunter, another parts dealer, or an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or

(b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or

(c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail.

8. Alligator Parts Retailer - Any properly licensed person selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption.

9. Alligator Parts Tag - An official tag issued by the Department that is attached to all unprocessed alligator parts upon transfer by an alligator hunter, an alligator parts dealer, or alligator farmer.

10. Alligator Shipping Label - A serially numbered label issued by the Department required on each container of alligators or alligator eggs being shipped or transported out of the state.

11. Bona Fide Resident (1) - Any person who has resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the twelve months

immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated with all of the following, as applicable:

(a) If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.

(b) If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a Louisiana driver's license.

(c) If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a Louisiana registration for that vehicle.

(d) If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.

(2) As to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under and subject to the laws of Louisiana, and as to which the principal place of business and more than fifty percent of the officers, partners, or employees are domiciled in Louisiana.

12. Closed Season - That period of time of a calendar year not specifically included in the open season.

13. Commission - The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

14. Common Carrier - Any agency or person transporting passengers or property of any description for hire.

15. Confiscation - The exercise of a right under the police power wherein property is seized and held pending court order if the seized material is nonperishable, or disposed of without judicial intervention if perishable.

16. Consumer - Restaurants and other places where alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life is prepared for human consumption; or any person using alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life for bait or personal consumption.

17. Department - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18. Designated Collection Agent - Anyone who is permitted by the Department to assist an alligator egg collection permittee during alligator egg collection.

19. Fur Buyer - Anyone who buys raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, fur buyers, or fur dealers and who sells to another fur buyer or fur dealer within the confines of the state or to a nonresident fur dealer licensed by the State of Louisiana in interstate commerce, or who acts as an agent of another fur buyer or fur dealer in this state in such purchase or sale. Fur buyers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur buyers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur buyers.

20. Fur Dealer - Anyone who deals in raw furs and skins and who:

(a) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, or alligator farmer, either directly or indirectly, and ships or exports from this state, either directly or indirectly, the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(b) Buys from a fur buyer or other fur dealer and exports from this state the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(c) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or other dealer and sells such raw furs and skins for manufacturing into a finished product in this state; or

(d) Manufactures such furs and skins into a finished product in this state, buying directly from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer; or

(e) Transports raw furs or skins into this state for the purpose of sale within the state. Fur dealers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur dealers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur dealers.

21. Hatchling - A young of the year alligator which is less than twenty three (23) inches in length.

22. Hide - (See "Pelt").

23. Hook - Any curved or bent device attached to a line or pole for the purpose of taking alligators.

24. Hunt - In different tenses, attempting to take.

25. Incubator - An apparatus designed and used for the primary purpose of incubating alligator eggs.

26. Land Manager - Any authorized person who represents the landowner.

27. Landowner - Any person who owns land which the Department has designated as alligator habitat.

28. Licensee - Any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the Department.

29. Nongame Quadruped - Alligators, beavers, bobcats, coyotes, gray foxes, minks, muskrats, nutrias, opossums, otters, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and other wild quadrupeds valuable for their furs or skins.

30. Nongame Quadruped Breeder - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting and selling ~~nongame quadrupeds on alligator or fur farms.~~

31. Nongame Quadruped Exhibitor - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting nongame quadrupeds.

32. Nonresident - Any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(12).

33. Nuisance Alligator - A specific (particular) alligator that poses a threat to human life or property.

34. Nuisance Alligator Hunter - A licensed alligator hunter who is contracted or otherwise selected by the Department to remove designated nuisance alligators.

35. Open Season - That period of time set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, during which wild alligators or their eggs may be lawfully taken.

36. Out Of State Shipping Tag - An official, serially numbered tag, yellow in color, issued by the Department required on each shipment of alligator hides shipped out of state.

37. Part - For purposes of this section, a part is a division of a subsection.

38. Pelt - The skin or hide of a quadruped.

39. Pelting - Removing the skin and/or fur of a quadruped in such a manner as to render it marketable.

40. Person - Includes any individual person, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity recognized by law.

41. Pole Hunting - The act of taking an alligator from a den with a pole or snagging device of any type and includes using such devices to induce an alligator to move from a den prior to taking.

42. Possess - In its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining, or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee, or custodian for another.

43. Processed Alligator Part - Any part (and its resulting products) that has been removed from a legally taken alligator, treated to prevent decomposition, and packaged; provided that the meat is not processed until packaged and marked with required labeling as described in Subsection L of these regulations.

44. Propagation - The holding of live alligators for production of offspring.

45. Raising - The production of alligators under controlled environmental conditions or in outside facilities.

46. Rearing - (See "Raising").

47. Resident - (See "Bona Fide Resident").

48. Secretary - The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

49. Skin - (See "Pelt").

50. Take - In its different tenses, the attempt or act of: hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding, or killing by any means or device.

51. Transport - In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

52. Wildlife - All species of wild vertebrates.

53. Wildlife Management Area - Any area set aside, maintained, and supervised by the Department for the purpose of managing and harvesting wild birds, wild quadrupeds, fish and other aquatic life under controlled conditions to afford maximum public hunting and fishing opportunity.

54. Wildlife Refuge - Any area set aside and designated by the Department as a refuge on which wild birds and animals are protected. Control of certain forms of wildlife may be conducted by the Department.

C. General Rules.

1. No person shall take, possess, purchase or sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligators parts, or goods manufactured from alligators, except as provided in these regulations and LA. R.S. Title 56.

2. Each alligator, alligator egg, or alligator part taken or possessed in violation of these regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

3. Hides of alligators harvested in Louisiana shall be tagged in accordance with provisions of these regulations and deviation from those requirements shall be a violation and subject hides to confiscation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Pole Hunting is prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. An alligator hunter must possess on his or her person one or more current alligator hide tags while taking alligators provided that only one licensed hunter needs to possess current hide tags among a group of licensed hunters who are physically present in the same location and are conducting a joint hunting operation. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

6. No person shall release any alligator from any taking device for any purpose without first dispatching and tagging the alligator. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Collection of alligator hatchlings from the wild is strictly prohibited. Taking or collection of any wild alligator illegally is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part shall constitute a Class 7A violation for each alligator taken as described in Title 56. All alligators taken in violation of this part shall be confiscated and in addition to all other penalties provided herein, all alligator licenses of any type held by the offender(s) shall be revoked for a period of three (3) calendar years and no alligators shall be raised or propagated on the offender's facilities for a period of three (3) calendar years.

8. The shipment of alligator eggs out of state is prohibited except where special scientific permits have been obtained in

advance from the Department and specify all such shipments. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. Transportation of alligator(s) into this state without prior written approval of the Department is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. It is unlawful to ship alligator eggs into the State of Louisiana unless they are to be used for Department sponsored scientific studies and these shipments shall have prior written Department approval. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

11. The shipment of live alligators or alligator eggs out of the United States is strictly prohibited unless they are used for Department sponsored scientific studies with an accompanying authorization signed by the Secretary. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. There is levied a severance tax of twenty-five cents on all skins or hides taken from any alligator, within the state, payable to the state through the Department by the alligator hunter or alligator farmer taking his own catch out of state, or by the dealer. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

D. Licenses, Permits and Fees.

1. The licenses and fees required for activities authorized by these regulations are as prescribed under provisions of Title 56, or as prescribed in these regulations, and are:

- (a) \$25 for a resident alligator hunter's license;
- (b) \$150 for a nonresident alligator hunter's license;
- (c) \$25 for a resident fur buyer's license;
- (d) \$100 for a nonresident fur buyer's license;
- (e) \$150 for a resident fur dealer's license (\$500 deposit required);
- (f) \$300 for a nonresident fur dealer's license (\$1,000 deposit required);
- (g) \$10 for a nongame quadruped exhibitor's license;
- (h) \$25 for a nongame quadruped breeder's license;
- (i) \$50 for a alligator parts dealer license;
- (j) \$5 for a alligator parts retailer license;
- (k) \$4 for each alligator hide tag;
- (l) \$4 for each whole alligator leaving the state as alligator shipping label fee;
- (m) \$0.25 severance tax for each alligator hide taken from within the state;
- (n) \$25 for a Designated Agent Collection Permit.

2. No person may take, attempt to take, or possess a wild alligator in this state during the open season for taking wild alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses an alligator hunter's license. An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators, their skins, or parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. No resident or nonresident fur buyer shall ship furs, alligators, alligator skins, alligator eggs, or alligator parts out of state. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Every resident fur dealer, alligator hunter, alligator parts dealer, alligator farmer, nonresident fur dealer, or nonresident alligator hunter shall not ship or take raw alligator skins, alligators, or alligator parts out of state without first complying with provision of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person may engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped exhibitor license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in title 56.

6. No person may engage in the business of raising, breeding, propagating, exhibiting and selling alligators alive or selling their parts, and killing and transporting them and selling their skins and carcasses unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped breeder license and complies with Subsections N and O of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person shall engage in the business of buying and selling alligator parts unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid alligator parts dealer license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall secure from the department an alligator parts retailer license prior to commencing business. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. No person shall remove and possess alligator eggs from wild nests unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame game quadruped breeder license or a valid Designated Collection Agent Permit and also has in his possession a

valid alligator egg collection permit. Egg collection permits will only be issued to those persons who demonstrate competency in egg collection and handling, have necessary equipment accessible and comply with all Department requirements as described in Subsection N of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. No person shall ship or transport alligators out of the state without first applying for and receiving an alligator shipping label which shall be affixed to each container of alligators and is properly completed and validated by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

11. Every alligator hunter or alligator farmer shipping or transporting his own catch of alligator skins out of state is liable for the severance tax thereon, and shall apply for an official out of state shipping tag to be attached to the shipment and shall pay the severance tax prior to shipment. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

12. Valid holders of alligator hunter license, nongame quadruped breeder license, fur dealers license and alligator parts dealer license must comply with federal licensing and permit requirements to engage in interstate and international commerce involving alligators, alligator hides and parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

E. Wild Harvest Methods.

1. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line, and other legal capture devices which may be used, only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. There are no size restrictions on wild alligators taken during the general open season. A Department issued permit is required to sell alligators or their skins which are less than four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Legal methods for taking alligators in the wild are as follows:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Long (including compound) bow and barbed arrow; and
- (c) Firearms.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Hooks and arrows may be used only when a line of at least 300-pound test is securely attached to the hook or head of the arrow in such a manner to prevent separation from the hook or head until the carcass is retrieved. The other end of the line must be attached to a stationary or floating object capable of maintaining the line above water when an alligator is attached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator hunters shall inspect their hooks and lines and remove captured alligators daily. Alligators shall not be cut loose from hooks and lines for the purpose of selecting larger alligators. All hooks and lines shall be removed when an alligator hunter's quota is reached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Baited hooks and lines may be set no more than 24 hours prior to the general open season and shall be removed no later than sunset of the last day of the open season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person possessing alligator hide tags issued for privately-owned land or water may take alligators on adjacent publicly-owned water unless the taking device is anchored to privately-owned land or the person is on privately-owned land when the taking occurs, provided that any alligator captured on a legal taking device that is anchored to privately-owned land or held by a person on privately-owned land may be dispatched from a floating craft on public water. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. A person possessing alligator hide tags for publicly-owned areas may take alligators by legal means from a floating craft on public water for which the tags are issued.

F. Alligator Hide Tag Procurement and Tagging Requirements.

1. Alligator hide tags may be obtained as follows and only to properly licensed alligator hunters and nongame quadruped breeders:

2. Landowners, Land Managers and Hunters - upon application to the Department on forms provided for tag issuance. Applications for alligator tag allotments will be taken annually beginning August 1 and ending 10 days after the season opens.

(a) Maximum tag issuance to individual landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall be determined solely by

the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

(b) Land managers and hunters must present a notarized document from the landowner verifying their selection to represent that landowner and the total acreage represented to obtain hide tags.

(c) Payment for all alligator tags shall be received by the Department prior to issuance. Numbered alligator hide tags shall only be issued in the name of the license holder and are nontransferable. A refund will be issued for all unused alligator tags which are returned within the required time frame designated in these regulations.

Violation of parts 1 and 2 of this Subsection are class 2 violations as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator farmers - upon request to the Department at any time at least two weeks prior to scheduled harvesting, subject to verification of available stock by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. If an alligator hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which hide tags were issued, all unused hide tags and alligators in possession shall be confiscated and the violator's alligator hunting license shall be revoked. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunting licenses immediately prior to the annual open season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Alligator farmers shall adhere to the annual skinning requirements when skinning farm raised alligators. Alligators not skinned in compliance with the established specific requirements shall be considered illegal and shall be confiscated by the Department.

6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an

the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

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6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an

alligator hunter. The tag shall be attached in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. Alligator farmers may wait until farm raised alligators are skinned prior to tagging. Live or dead farm raised alligators may be transported with their accompanying tags from a licensed alligator farm to a licensed processing facility, however, each shipment shall be accompanied with the exact number of alligator hide tags. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

G. Open Season, Open Areas, and Bag Limits.

1. Open seasons are as follows:

(a) The general open season for taking alligators in the wild shall run for a 30 day period beginning on September 1, 1990 through September 30, 1990. The Secretary shall ~~be authorized to close, extend or reopen the season as~~ biologically justifiable.

(b) Nuisance control hunters may take nuisance alligators at any time as prescribed by the Department.

(c) Farm raised alligators may be taken at any time following the issuance of hide tags by the Department.

(d) The open season for collection of alligator eggs from the wild shall be from May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. The open areas are as follows:

(a) For the general open season, those areas designated by the technical staff of the Department as alligator habitat and which can sustain an alligator harvest.

(b) The Department may select public lakes and lands for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by Department personnel. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. Applications must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date. A public drawing will be held to select hunters. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake per season. The tag quota for each lake and hunter will be established by the technical staff of the Department. Alligator tags issued on public lakes and lands are nontransferable.

(c) Wild alligators in the remainder of the state may be taken only under provisions as prescribed by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. The daily and season bag limit is equal to the number of valid alligator hide tags that a licensed alligator hunter possesses. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Non resident alligator hunters may only take three (3) alligator during the open season. Violation of this part is a class 4 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Harvest rates will be calculated annually by Department personnel based on biological data. Alligator hide tag allotments will be established prior to issuance of alligator hunting licenses.

H. Possession.

1. No person shall possess alligators or alligator hides in Louisiana without valid official tags properly attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or hide shall result in confiscation of both the alligator or hide and tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator farmers may request hide tags or shipping labels from the Department to be used on farm-raised alligators that have died unexpectedly and may hold those alligators in freezers until receipt of the requested hide tags or shipping labels. These alligators may be held in freezers for a maximum of 60 days prior to disposal. All alligators 24 inches and greater in length that die unexpectedly must be properly skinned and tagged with an alligator hide tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. No person other than a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur buyer or licensed fur dealer may possess a tagged or labeled alligator, a tagged raw or salted hide of an alligator at any time, provided that legally documented tagged or labeled alligators or tagged hides may be possessed without license while in transit, or during processing for tanning or taxidermy. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess live alligators at any time other than by a permit issued by the

Department upon request for use in displays and educational purposes, and by holders of valid Department issued permits for scientific purposes. Live, farm raised alligators and their alligator hide tags may be held for processing by a properly licensed alligator skinning facility without a license or permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess alligator eggs at any time other than Department permitted Designated Collection Agents assisting a licensed and permitted alligator farmer during wild egg collection, or a holder of a valid Department issued permit for scientific purposes. Any alligators hatched from scientific permits issued by the Department will be returned to the wild under Departmental supervision following completion of the research project. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

I. Importation, Exportation, Purchase, and Sale.

1. Alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators, may be brought into the state only if the alligators, alligator hides or parts of alligators were lawfully taken in another state or country and the person, firm or corporation bringing the alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or alligator parts into the state has obtained written permission from the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. All alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators possessed, sold, purchased, exported, imported, or brought into the state from another state shall be accompanied by documented evidence that they were lawfully taken. Documented evidence shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(a) A resource user license or permit number allowing the taking of alligators and tags or other identification required by the state or country of origin shall be firmly attached to the alligator, alligator hide, or parts of alligators; and

(b) A tag or label is affixed to the outside of any package or container of alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts that specifies type of contents, indicates quantity contained, and lists applicable license or permit numbers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Purchases of alligators, alligator hides and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may not purchase alligators or alligator hides from anyone.

(b) A licensed fur buyer may purchase alligator hides from an Louisiana licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur dealer, or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(c) A licensed fur dealer may purchase alligator hides from a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, fur buyer or another fur dealer.

(d) A licensed alligator farmer may purchase live alligators only from another licensed alligator farmer or the Department.

(e) An alligator farmer may purchase alligator eggs only from another alligator farmer, a landowner/land manager (with an approved Department alligator egg collection permit), or the Department.

(f) A licensed alligator parts dealer may purchase alligator parts from an licensed alligator hunter, alligator farmer, another alligator parts dealer, or the Department.

(g) A licensed parts retailer may purchase canned alligator parts or alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer.

(h) A restaurant may purchase alligator meat to sell prepared for human consumption with a alligator parts retailer license.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Sales of alligators and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may sell alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts taken by the licensee during the general open season to anyone who may legally purchase.

(b) A licensed alligator farmer may sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligator hides, or alligator parts to anyone who may legally purchase. The sale of alligator eggs or live alligators shall only occur following the issuance of an Alligator Transfer Authorization Permit issued by the Department. Application for the permit shall be made at least 2 weeks prior to the transfer.

(c) A licensed fur buyer may sell alligator hides to a fur dealer or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(d) A licensed fur dealer may sell alligator hides to anyone who may legally purchase.

(e) A licensed alligator parts dealer may sell alligator parts to anyone.

(f) A licensed alligator parts retailer may sell canned alligator parts, processed alligator parts, or alligator meat to anyone.

(g) A restaurant possessing an alligator parts retailer license may sell alligator meat prepared for human consumption to anyone.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Legally tagged and documented alligators, alligator hides, and parts of alligators taken in Louisiana may be shipped out of state or exported by alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur dealers and alligator parts dealers subject to Subsection K of these regulations (relating to Report Requirements); provided that no live alligators or eggs originating in Louisiana may be exported outside of the United States without specific Department authorization and the concurrence of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to be used only for scientific purposes. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. A special permit is required of anyone who sells alligator eggs, live alligators under four (4) feet in length, or skins of alligators under four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

J. Nuisance Alligator Control.

1. Nuisance alligator hunters will be selected by the Department and may be based upon recommendations received from the local governing body. Applicants with prior alligator hunting violations will be rejected.

2. Nuisance alligator hunters shall purchase a valid alligator hunter license and are bound by all laws, rules and regulations governing alligator hunting with the exception that nuisance alligators may be taken at anytime. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Nuisance alligator complaints will be verified by Department personnel prior to being approved for removal. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Tags will be issued to nuisance alligator hunters for immediate attachment to alligators when taken. Nuisance alligator hunters will make every attempt possible to catch nuisance alligators and relocate to natural habitat selected by the Department. It is unlawful for any nuisance alligator captured alive to be sold or otherwise disposed of on an alligator farm. Alligators and alligator parts taken and tagged under these provisions may be retained and sold by the nuisance alligator hunter as any other legally taken wild alligator or alligator part. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Nuisance alligator hunters may take alligators by any means prescribed by the Department. Failure to comply with Departmental instructions may result in immediate termination of the individual's participation in the nuisance alligator program. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

K. Report Requirements.

1. Report forms provided by the Department must be completed and filed with the Department by all persons who have been issued an alligator hunter's license, fur buyer's license, fur dealer's license, nongame quadruped exhibitor's license, nongame quadruped breeder's license, alligator parts dealer's license, or alligator egg collection permit in accordance with this Subsection. Reports shall include but not be limited to the information specified in this Subsection.

2. Alligator hunters receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

(c) All unused tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Violation of this requirement shall result in no license or alligator tags being issued to the violator for a period of one year.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department.

(e) Each licensed alligator hunter selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall provide that person with a bill of sale for each transaction.

(f) All records of transactions involving alligator parts of alligator hunters shall be available for inspection by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. A nuisance alligator hunter shall comply with the same report requirements as an alligator hunter and complete any other reports required by the Department. Violation of this requirement shall result in immediate termination of nuisance alligator hunter status. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator farmers receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(c) All unused hide tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Violation of this requirement shall result in the revocation of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid of any alligator hide not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(e) Each alligator farmer shall report annually, no later than December 31, on an official form provided by the Department, all activities that have occurred on the farm for the past year including but not limited to the number of live alligators as of that date, separated by sizes, the number of eggs collected and hatched, the purchase and sale of alligators for the past year and the numbers of alligators lost. Failure to complete this form properly and completely will result in non renewal of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

(f) Each licensed alligator farmer selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall furnish that person with a bill of sale for each transaction. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation.

5. Fur buyers and fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must keep within the state a complete record on forms provided by the Department, all purchases and sales made of alligator hides as described in Title 56, and;

(a) Every buyer or dealer having undressed alligator hides in his possession after the close of each open season shall file with the Department within 60 days or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report, on forms provided by the Department, a detailed description of alligator hides then owned or held in possession as owner or agent.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. Fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must maintain complete records of alligator hides purchased inside and outside the state as described in Title 56. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the required severance tax subjects any dealer to the full penalties provided and the immediate revocation of his license by the Department. No license shall be issued to a dealer who has not paid the tax for the preceding year. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator parts dealers purchasing alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts purchase form for each purchase. Alligator parts dealers selling alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the Department and shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the open season and at 60-day intervals until final disposition of all wild parts. These forms shall be submitted annually for all farm raised alligator parts, and;

(a) Alligator parts dealers shall furnish a bill of sale to anyone purchasing alligator parts.

(b) The records of transactions involving alligator parts shall be available for inspection by the Department and shall be maintained complete for a period of one year following any transaction.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Any alligator parts retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase and these records shall be available for inspection by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

L. Alligator Meat.

1. Alligator meat from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to state and federal laws, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator meat processed in the State of Louisiana and sold for human consumption must be processed in a licensed facility approved by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the facility must display a valid permit issued by that agency. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator carcasses being shipped whole shall be tagged with an alligator parts tag properly identifying the carcasses and shall remain on the carcasses until the processing makes identification impossible. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator hunters and alligator farmers involved in alligator parts transactions with individual consumers shall properly tag all alligator parts and the parts tag shall remain attached until final disposition. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. All alligator meat processed for sale must be packaged in suitable containers which identifies the contents as alligator meat, is marked with a valid Department license number and comply with all state and federal packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. All alligator meat shipped into the state and being offered for sale must meet all of Louisiana's health, processing, packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

M. Disposal of Alligators by the Department.

1. The Department may sell alligators, alligator eggs or parts of alligators taken for any purpose deemed necessary for proper management of the species pursuant to Title 56.

2. The Department may dispose of alligators, alligator eggs, or parts of alligators by donation or lending to a scientific institution or other institutions that the Department deems have need for such alligators, however these institutions cannot sell or barter these animals and must be returned to the Department at the conclusion of the program or need.

3. Confiscated alligator hides and parts may be destroyed by the Department pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

4. Confiscated live alligator eggs or alligators will be cared for by the Department and released in suitable alligator habitat when and where they can survive. All costs incurred by the Department in the maintenance of these eggs and animals in captivity shall be the responsibility of the offender and restitution shall be made to the Department.

N. Alligator Egg Collection.

1. Alligator egg collection permits are a three party permit between the Department, the permittee and a landowner/manager

who owns or leases alligator nesting habitat determined by Department biologists to be capable of producing alligator eggs. The numbers of eggs to be collected will be based upon biological management criteria and will be determined annually by technical staff of the Department. The Department only estimates the numbers of eggs available and assumes no responsibility or offers no guarantee that those numbers of eggs will be available. Alligator egg collection permits may be obtained upon application to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The annual deadline for submitting applications for Alligator Egg Collection Permits is June 1. This program is experimental and may be changed at any time based on biological data to insure for proper management of the wild alligator population.

2. Alligator egg collection permits may be issued by the Department provided:

(a) Permittee is a properly licensed alligator farmer and meets all applicable requirements in Subsection O of these regulations (Alligator Farm Facility Requirements).

(b) All land documentation required on the alligator egg collection permit has been presented to the Department.

(c) Department biologists determine the properties described on the permit application are indeed alligator nesting habitat and can sustain alligator egg collections.

(d) Applicant has obtained all legal and necessary signatures from landowners/land managers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. It is unlawful for an alligator farmer or a permitted Designated Collection Agent to collect eggs from properties other than those described in the alligator egg collection permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. An alligator farmer or designated collection agent in the act of collecting or possessing alligator eggs must possess on his or her person a copy of the fully executed alligator egg collection permit. The designated collection agent must also possess a valid designated collection agent permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Collection of wild alligator eggs can only be made after contacting the appropriate Department Enforcement Agent no

less than 24 hours prior to each collection trip. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Alligator eggs can only be collected from the wild from official sunrise to official sunset and only during the established alligator egg collection season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator eggs collected from the wild must be collected and transported in a manner which insures the greatest survival of viable eggs as determined by Department biologists. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each clutch of alligator eggs collected should be maintained as a separate entity from time of collection through incubation and hatching.

9. Failure to hatch at least 70% of viable alligator eggs collected from the wild shall be considered a waste of Louisiana's natural resources. All alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued should an alligator farmer be found to waste the resources of this state for two consecutive years.

10. Alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued to alligator farmers who fail to average a minimum hatchling survival rate of 85% for two consecutive years.

11. The alligator egg collection permittee and the landowner are responsible for returning the percentage of live alligators to the wild described on the alligator egg collection permit. This requirement is nontransferable. Minimum return rates will be based upon the state average hatching success which is 78%. Each alligator shall be returned to the original egg collection area. Each alligator shall be a minimum of 48" in size and the returned sex ratio should contain at least 50% females. The Department shall be responsible for supervising the required return of these alligators. Releases back to the wild will only occur between April 15 and September 15 of each calendar year. Should an alligator egg collection permittee be unable to release the required number of alligators to the wild from his own stock, he shall be required to purchase additional alligators from another farmer to meet compliance with the alligator egg collection permit and these regulations, as supervised by the Department. Department sanctioned participants in ongoing studies involving survivability and return rates are exempt from these requirements during the period of the study.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. The percentage of 48" alligators to be returned to the wild shall be selected from the healthiest of all alligators of that year class. Abnormal or deformed alligators are not acceptable for release into the wild. It is unlawful for alligators that are to be returned to the wild to be transported out of state. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

O. Alligator Farm Facility Requirements.

1. All first time applicants for a nongame quadruped breeder's or exhibitor's license who will house alligators on their premises shall show compliance of the following minimum facilities as applicable to their particular operation during a required facility examination by Department personnel prior to license issuance:

(a) Secured premises with adequate barriers to prevent escape of enclosed alligators and entry by alligators from outside the farm and to deter theft of alligators.

(b) Source of clean, fresh water which shall be adequate to ensure for proper care of all alligator stock and facilities. This requirement shall be determined by Department personnel.

(c) Provisions for both dry area and pooled water within the secured area adequate for the numbers of alligators to be housed on the premises. This requirement will be determined by Department personnel.

(d) Provision for winter protection, either through adequate denning space or an enclosed, controlled-temperature environment of a design acceptable to the Department.

(e) All controlled-temperature alligator sheds shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each shed shall be capable of maintaining a minimum constant temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit. Minimum space requirements for alligators housed in the shed shall be:

(i) One square foot of space shall be required for each alligator less than 24" in length.

(ii) Three square feet of space shall be required for each alligator measuring 25" to 48" in length.

(iii) One additional square foot of space shall be required for each additional 6 inches of alligator length for alligators above four feet in length.

(f) All alligator egg incubators shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each incubator shall maintain a water and air temperature of 85 to 91 degrees fahrenheit during the egg incubation.

(g) Applicant must be in compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to zoning, construction, health and environmental standards and must possess any and all applicable permits and licenses.

(h) All alligator facilities should be constructed in an suitable location so as to minimize contact with people.

2. Following initial issuance of applicable license, all applicable facility requirements shall be adhered to and Department personnel have the authority to inspect any and all of the facilities at any time. Failure to adhere to the requirements shall be a violation of these rules and violators will be given 60 days to correct the problem. Failure to comply shall result in confiscation of all animals and/or closure of all facilities. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. All alligator farmers possessing alligator eggs outside an alligator nest should house these eggs in identifiable original clutch groups in an incubator providing constant temperature and humidity conditions. All incubators used to incubate alligator eggs shall be of a design to allow for maximum temperature control and conform to Department requirements to allow for the maximum hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. All alligator farmers possessing alligator hatchlings shall house hatchlings in controlled environmental chambers capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit year round and containing dry and wet areas of sufficient surface area to permit all alligators to completely submerge in water and completely exit from water and orient in any direction, without touching the sides of the chambers. All alligators 48" or less in length shall be housed in environmental chambers unless a special permit is issued by the Department to move them to outside growth areas. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator farmers shall house alligators of different lengths into at least three groups, providing separation for

all alligators less than two feet in length, two to four feet in length, and over four feet in length. Land and water areas sufficient for complete submersion or complete exit from water shall be provided for each group of alligators held. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Nesting activity of captive alligators shall be recorded with weekly accounts of nests constructed, eggs collected, number of viable eggs set and hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Complete written records shall be maintained by the license holder and shall be submitted to the Department on a standardized annual report form provided by the Department, which shall be provided as part of the annual license renewal. ~~These reports must be submitted no later than December 31 of each year.~~ Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

8. All facilities, alligator stock, and records are subject to examination by Department personnel prior to permitting and thereafter during farm operation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

9. It shall be unlawful for alligator eggs or alligators to be moved from a licensed premises without approval of the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

P. Exceptions.

1. These regulations do not require licenses, labels, or permits for consumers who purchase or possess goods processed or manufactured from alligators which have been legally taken or raised, provided that such goods are used by the consumer and are not sold or bartered in conjunction with a wholesale or retail business activity.

2. The Department or an authorized representative of the Department may take by any means and possess alligators or parts of alligators while in the performance of official duties.

3. These regulations shall not prohibit a person from killing an alligator in immediate defense of his or her life or the lives of others. Alligators killed under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. These regulations do not require a state license or permit of persons who deal in finished alligator leather products.

Q. Penalty for Violation.

1. In order to facilitate greater control over alligator trafficking, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries finds that public welfare imperatively requires emergency action when the provisions of these regulations are violated.

2. If citations are issued for a violation of these regulations, all licenses and tags belonging to or in the possession of the cited party shall be suspended until such time as the said party appears before Department officials for purposes of reviewing the citations issued. The Secretary, after reviewing the proceedings may reinstate or revoke the suspension. The alleged violator may lose all rights and privileges to participate in this program if found guilty by criminal or civil process.

3. The Department shall have the authority to confiscate any alligators or alligator eggs from any person or facility that is not caring for the alligators or alligator eggs in a humane manner. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs consists but is not limited to conditions which could have an adverse effect upon the alligators or alligator eggs such as sanitary conditions, temperature control, feeding, or overcrowding. The confiscated alligators and alligator eggs shall be disposed of as the Department deems necessary. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. In addition to all penalties set forth herein, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution under provisions of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Titles 14 and 56 and under Federal law.

5. In addition to all other penalties provided by these rules and by statute, violation of any part of these regulations may result in the suspension and/or revocation of any or all alligator licenses held by the violator and, as further penalty, for serious, repeat, or multiple violations, the Department shall have the right to deny a violator any and all licenses relating to alligators for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the excerpt of the meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 5, 1990.

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS
JULY 5, 1990

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish alligator regulations; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The alligator farming program is regulated by the Department through regulations enacted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt regulations for administering all aspects of the alligator program which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the notice of
intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The alligator industry of Louisiana represents a renewable resource, valuable to the economy providing income to approximately 110 alligator farmers and in excess of 1,500 alligator hunters. The alligator farming program and the annual harvest of surplus wild and nuisance alligators is in keeping with wise wildlife management techniques based upon scientific research conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The Department does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the following alligator regulations. The regulations governing the alligator harvest program and the alligator farming program may be viewed at Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, phone: (504) 765-2811.

PART V. WILD QUADRUPEDS AND WILD BIRDS

Chapter 7. Alligators

#701. Alligator Regulations

A. Purpose.

These regulations are to govern the taking, possession, selling, raising and propagation of alligators statewide, both in ~~the wild and in captivity~~. They are enacted to prevent depletion or waste, while enhancing utilization of this renewable resource. These regulations are based upon scientific study and population monitoring and are consistent with federal requirements to qualify alligators and alligator parts from Louisiana for international export under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Alligators in Louisiana are not endangered but their similarity in appearance to endangered crocodilian species requires controls on commerce to minimize illegal trafficking of these species and to regulate and maintain the wild population of alligators. These regulations provide rules to enhance alligator farming operations; establish the methods of alligator harvest; establish minimum facility requirements for alligator farming; regulate commerce in alligators, eggs and parts; streamline necessary reporting requirements; and, establish a regulated nuisance alligator control program.

B. Definitions.

The following words and phrases for purposes of these regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, unless the context wherein the particular word or phrase is used clearly indicates a different meaning:

1. Alligator - American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis).
2. Alligator Egg Collection Permit - A permit issued by the Department allowing for the collection of alligator eggs on designated properties described as part of the permit. The permit will be signed by the Secretary or his designee, the permittee and the landowner/land manager.
3. Alligator Farm - An enclosed area, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding

public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications and requirements set by the Department, where alligators are bred, propagated, or raised as a commercial enterprise under controlled conditions.

4. Alligator Farmer - A properly licensed person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the Department. An alligator farmer must possess a valid nongame quadruped breeder's license.

5. Alligator Hunter - A properly licensed resident or nonresident person who takes wild alligators.

6. Alligator Part - Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except hides tagged pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations including the laws and regulations of the United States Government, the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

7. Alligator Parts Dealer - Any properly licensed person who deals in alligator parts and who:

(a) Buys from an alligator hunter, another parts dealer, or an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or

(b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or

(c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail.

8. Alligator Parts Retailer - Any properly licensed person; selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption.

9. Alligator Parts Tag - An official tag issued by the Department that is attached to all unprocessed alligator parts upon transfer by an alligator hunter, an alligator parts dealer, or alligator farmer.

10. Alligator Shipping Label - A serially numbered label issued by the Department required on each container of alligators or alligator eggs being shipped or transported out of the state.

11. Bona Fide Resident (1) - Any person who has resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the twelve months immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this

state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated with all of the following, as applicable:

(a) If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.

(b) If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a Louisiana driver's license.

(c) If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a Louisiana registration for that vehicle.

(d) If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.

(2) As to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under and subject to the laws of Louisiana, and as to which the principal place of business and more than fifty percent of the officers, partners, or employees are domiciled in Louisiana.

12. Closed Season - That period of time of a calendar year not specifically included in the open season.

13. Commission - The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

14. Common Carrier - Any agency or person transporting passengers or property of any description for hire.

15. Confiscation - The exercise of a right under the police power wherein property is seized and held pending court order if the seized material is nonperishable, or disposed of without judicial intervention if perishable.

16. Consumer - Restaurants and other places where alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life is prepared for human consumption; or any person using alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life for bait or personal consumption.

17. Department - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18. Designated Collection Agent - Anyone who is permitted by the Department to assist an alligator egg collection permittee during alligator egg collection.

19. Fur Buyer - Anyone who buys raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, fur buyers, or fur dealers and

who sells to another fur buyer or fur dealer within the confines of the state or to a nonresident fur dealer licensed by the State of Louisiana in interstate commerce, or who acts as an agent of another fur buyer or fur dealer in this state in such purchase or sale. Fur buyers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur buyers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur buyers.

20. Fur Dealer - Anyone who deals in raw furs and skins and who:

(a) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, or alligator farmer, either directly or indirectly, and ships or exports from this state, either directly or indirectly, the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(b) Buys from a fur buyer or other fur dealer and exports from this state the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(c) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or other dealer and sells such raw furs and skins for manufacturing into a finished product in this state; or

(d) Manufactures such furs and skins into a finished product in this state, buying directly from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer; or

(e) Transports raw furs or skins into this state for the purpose of sale within the state. Fur dealers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur dealers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur dealers.

21. Hatchling - A young of the year alligator which is less than twenty three (23) inches in length.

22. Hide - (See "Pelt").

23. Hook - Any curved or bent device attached to a line or pole for the purpose of taking alligators.

24. Hunt - In different tenses, attempting to take.

25. Incubator - An apparatus designed and used for the primary purpose of incubating alligator eggs.

26. Land Manager - Any authorized person who represents the landowner.

27. Landowner - Any person who owns land which the Department has designated as alligator habitat.

28. Licensee - Any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the Department.

29. Nongame Quadruped - Alligators, beavers, bobcats, coyotes, gray foxes, minks, muskrats, nutrias, opossums, otters, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and other wild quadrupeds valuable for their furs or skins.

30. Nongame Quadruped Breeder - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting and selling nongame quadrupeds on alligator or fur farms.

31. Nongame Quadruped Exhibitor - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting nongame quadrupeds.

32. Nonresident - Any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(12).

33. Nuisance Alligator - A specific (particular) alligator that poses a threat to human life or property.

34. Nuisance Alligator Hunter - A licensed alligator hunter who is contracted or otherwise selected by the Department to remove designated nuisance alligators.

35. Open Season - That period of time set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, during which wild alligators or their eggs may be lawfully taken.

36. Out Of State Shipping Tag - An official, serially numbered tag, yellow in color, issued by the Department required on each shipment of alligator hides shipped out of state.

37. Part - For purposes of this section, a part is a division of a subsection.

38. Pelt - The skin or hide of a quadruped.

39. Pelting - Removing the skin and/or fur of a quadruped in such a manner as to render it marketable.

40. Person - Includes any individual person, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity recognized by law.

41. Pole Hunting - The act of taking an alligator from a den with a pole or snagging device of any type and includes using such devices to induce an alligator to move from a den prior to taking.

42. Possess - In its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining, or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee, or custodian for another.

43. Processed Alligator Part - Any part (and its resulting products) that has been removed from a legally taken alligator, treated to prevent decomposition, and packaged; provided that the meat is not processed until packaged and marked with required labeling as described in Subsection L of these regulations.

44. Propagation - The holding of live alligators for production of offspring.

45. Raising - The production of alligators under controlled environmental conditions or in outside facilities.

46. Rearing - (See "Raising").

47. Resident - (See "Bona Fide Resident").

48. Secretary - The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

49. Skin - (See "Pelt").

50. Take - In its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding, or killing by any means or device.

51. Transport - In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

52. Wildlife - All species of wild vertebrates.

53. Wildlife Management Area - Any area set aside, maintained, and supervised by the Department for the purpose of managing and harvesting wild birds, wild quadrupeds, fish and other aquatic life under controlled conditions to afford maximum public hunting and fishing opportunity.

54. Wildlife Refuge - Any area set aside and designated by the Department as a refuge on which wild birds and animals

are protected. Control of certain forms of wildlife may be conducted by the Department.

C. General Rules.

1. No person shall take, possess, purchase or sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligators parts, or goods manufactured from alligators, except as provided in these regulations and LA. R.S. Title 56.

2. Each alligator, alligator egg, or alligator part taken or possessed in violation of these regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

3. Hides of alligators harvested in Louisiana shall be tagged in accordance with provisions of these regulations and deviation from those requirements shall be a violation and subject hides to confiscation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Pole Hunting is prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. An alligator hunter must possess on his or her person one or more current alligator hide tags while taking alligators provided that only one licensed hunter needs to possess current hide tags among a group of licensed hunters who are physically present in the same location and are conducting a joint hunting operation. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

6. No person shall release any alligator from any taking device for any purpose without first dispatching and tagging the alligator. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Collection of alligator hatchlings from the wild is strictly prohibited. Taking or collection of any wild alligator illegally is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is shall constitute a Class 7A violation for each alligator taken as described in Title 56. All alligators taken in violation of this part shall be confiscated and in addition to all other penalties provided herein, all alligator licenses of any type held by the offender(s) shall be revoked for a period of three (3) calendar years and no alligators shall be raised or propagated on the offender's facilities for a period of three (3) calendar years.

8. The shipment of alligator eggs out of state is prohibited except where special scientific permits have been obtained in advance from the Department and specify all such shipments.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. Transportation of alligator(s) into this state without prior written approval of the Department is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. It is unlawful to ship alligator eggs into the State of Louisiana unless they are to be used for Department sponsored scientific studies and these shipments shall have prior written Department approval. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

11. The shipment of live alligators or alligator eggs out of the United States is strictly prohibited unless they are used for Department sponsored scientific studies with an accompanying authorization signed by the Secretary. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. There is levied a severance tax of twenty-five cents on all skins or hides taken from any alligator, within the state, payable to the state through the Department by the alligator hunter or alligator farmer taking his own catch out of state, or by the dealer. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

D. Licenses, Permits and Fees.

1. The licenses and fees required for activities authorized by these regulations are as prescribed under provisions of Title 56, or as prescribed in these regulations, and are:

- (a) \$25 for a resident alligator hunter's license;
- (b) \$150 for a nonresident alligator hunter's license;
- (c) \$25 for a resident fur buyer's license;
- (d) \$100 for a nonresident fur buyer's license;
- (e) \$150 for a resident fur dealer's license (\$500 deposit required);
- (f) \$300 for a nonresident fur dealer's license (\$1,000 deposit required);
- (g) \$10 for a nongame quadruped exhibitor's license;
- (h) \$25 for a nongame quadruped breeder's license;
- (i) \$50 for a alligator parts dealer license;
- (j) \$5 for a alligator parts retailer license;
- (k) \$4 for each alligator hide tag;
- (l) \$4 for each whole alligator leaving the state as alligator shipping label fee;
- (m) \$0.25 severance tax for each alligator hide taken from within the state;
- (n) \$25 for a Designated Agent Collection Permit.

2. No person may take, attempt to take, or possess a wild alligator in this state during the open season for taking wild alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses an alligator hunter's license. An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators, their skins, or parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. No resident or nonresident fur buyer shall ship furs, alligators, alligator skins, alligator eggs, or alligator parts out of state. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Every resident fur dealer, alligator hunter, alligator parts dealer, alligator farmer, nonresident fur dealer, or nonresident alligator hunter shall not ship or take raw alligator skins, alligators, or alligator parts out of state without first complying with provision of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person may engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped exhibitor license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in title 56.

6. No person may engage in the business of raising, breeding, propagating, exhibiting and selling alligators alive or selling their parts, and killing and transporting them and selling their skins and carcasses unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped breeder license and complies with Subsections N and O of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person shall engage in the business of buying and selling alligator parts unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid alligator parts dealer license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall secure from the department an alligator parts retailer license prior to commencing business. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. No person shall remove and possess alligator eggs from wild nests unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame game quadruped breeder license or a valid Designated Collection Agent Permit and also has in his possession a

valid alligator egg collection permit. Egg collection permits will only be issued to those persons who demonstrate competency in egg collection and handling, have necessary equipment accessible and comply with all Department requirements as described in Subsection N of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. No person shall ship or transport alligators out of the state without first applying for and receiving an alligator shipping label which shall be affixed to each container of alligators and is properly completed and validated by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

11. Every alligator hunter or alligator farmer shipping or transporting his own catch of alligator skins out of state is liable for the severance tax thereon, and shall apply for an official out of state shipping tag to be attached to the shipment and shall pay the severance tax prior to shipment. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

12. Valid holders of alligator hunter license, nongame quadruped breeder license, fur dealers license and alligator parts dealer license must comply with federal licensing and permit requirements to engage in interstate and international commerce involving alligators, alligator hides and parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

E. Wild Harvest Methods.

1. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line, and other legal capture devices which may be used, only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. There are no size restrictions on wild alligators taken during the general open season. A Department issued permit is required to sell alligators or their skins which are less than four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Legal methods for taking alligators in the wild are as follows:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Long (including compound) bow and barbed arrow; and
- (c) Firearms.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Hooks and arrows may be used only when a line of at least 300-pound test is securely attached to the hook or head of the arrow in such a manner to prevent separation from the hook or head until the carcass is retrieved. The other end of the line must be attached to a stationary or floating object capable of maintaining the line above water when an alligator is attached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator hunters shall inspect their hooks and lines and remove captured alligators daily. Alligators shall not be cut loose from hooks and lines for the purpose of selecting larger alligators. All hooks and lines shall be removed when an alligator hunter's quota is reached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Baited hooks and lines may be set no more than 24 hours prior to the general open season and shall be removed no later than sunset of the last day of the open season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person possessing alligator hide tags issued for privately-owned land or water may take alligators on adjacent publicly-owned water unless the taking device is anchored to privately-owned land or the person is on privately-owned land when the taking occurs, provided that any alligator captured on a legal taking device that is anchored to privately-owned land or held by a person on privately-owned land may be dispatched from a floating craft on public water. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. A person possessing alligator hide tags for publicly-owned areas may take alligators by legal means from a floating craft on public water for which the tags are issued.

F. Alligator Hide Tag Procurement and Tagging Requirements.

1. Alligator hide tags may be obtained as follows and only to properly licensed alligator hunters and nongame quadruped breeders:

2. Landowners, Land Managers and Hunters - upon application to the Department on forms provided for tag issuance. Applications for alligator tag allotments will be taken annually beginning August 1 and ending 10 days after the season opens.

(a) Maximum tag issuance to individual landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall be determined solely by the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented

on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

(b) Land managers and hunters must present a notarized document from the landowner verifying their selection to represent that landowner and the total acreage represented to obtain hide tags.

(c) Payment for all alligator tags shall be received by the Department prior to issuance. Numbered alligator hide tags shall only be issued in the name of the license holder and are nontransferable. A refund will be issued for all unused alligator tags which are returned within the required time frame designated in these regulations.

~~Violation of parts 1 and 2 of this Subsection are class 2 violations as described in Title 56.~~

3. Alligator farmers - upon request to the Department at any time at least two weeks prior to scheduled harvesting, subject to verification of available stock by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. If an alligator hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which hide tags were issued, all unused hide tags and alligators in possession shall be confiscated and the violator's alligator hunting license shall be revoked. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of: alligator hunting licenses immediately prior to the annual open season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Alligator farmers shall adhere to the annual skinning requirements when skinning farm raised alligators. Alligators not skinned in compliance with the established specific requirements shall be considered illegal and shall be confiscated by the Department.

6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an alligator hunter. The tag shall be attached in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. Alligator farmers

may wait until farm raised alligators are skinned prior to tagging. Live or dead farm raised alligators may be transported with their accompanying tags from a licensed alligator farm to a licensed processing facility, however, each shipment shall be accompanied with the exact number of alligator hide tags. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

G. Open Season, Open Areas, and Bag Limits.

1. Open seasons are as follows:

(a) The general open season for taking alligators in the wild may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting. The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

(b) Nuisance control hunters may take nuisance alligators at any time as prescribed by the Department.

(c) Farm raised alligators may be taken at any time following the issuance of hide tags by the Department.

(d) The open season for collection of alligator eggs from the wild shall be from May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. The open areas are as follows:

(a) For the general open season, those areas designated by the technical staff of the Department as alligator habitat and which can sustain an alligator harvest.

(b) The Department may select public lakes and lands for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by Department personnel. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. Applications must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date. A public drawing will be held to select hunters. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake per season. The tag quota for each lake and hunter will be established by the technical staff of the Department. Alligator tags issued on public lakes and lands are nontransferable.

(c) Wild alligators in the remainder of the state may be taken only under provisions as prescribed by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. The daily and season bag limit is equal to the number of valid alligator hide tags that a licensed alligator hunter possesses. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Non resident alligator hunters may only take three (3) alligator during the open season. Violation of this part is a class 4 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Harvest rates will be calculated annually by Department personnel based on biological data. Alligator hide tag allotments will be established prior to issuance of alligator hunting licenses.

H. Possession.

1. No person shall possess alligators or alligator hides in Louisiana without valid official tags properly attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or hide shall result in confiscation of both the alligator or hide and tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator farmers may request hide tags or shipping labels from the Department to be used on farm-raised alligators that have died unexpectedly and may hold those alligators in freezers until receipt of the requested hide tags or shipping labels. These alligators may be held in freezers for a maximum of 60 days prior to disposal. All alligators 24 inches and greater in length that die unexpectedly must be properly skinned and tagged with an alligator hide tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56..

3. No person other than a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur buyer or licensed fur dealer may possess a tagged or labeled alligator, a tagged raw or salted hide of an alligator at any time, provided that legally documented tagged or labeled alligators or tagged hides may be possessed without license while in transit, or during processing for tanning or taxidermy. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess live alligators at any time other than by a permit issued by the

Department upon request for use in displays and educational purposes, and by holders of valid Department issued permits for scientific purposes. Live, farm raised alligators and their alligator hide tags may be held for processing by a properly licensed alligator skinning facility without a license or permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess alligator eggs at any time other than Department permitted Designated Collection Agents assisting a licensed and permitted alligator farmer during wild egg collection, or a holder of a valid Department issued permit for scientific purposes. Any alligators hatched from scientific permits issued by the Department will be returned to the wild under Departmental supervision following completion of the research project. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

I. Importation, Exportation, Purchase, and Sale.

1. Alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators, may be brought into the state only if the alligators, alligator hides or parts of alligators were lawfully taken in another state or country and the person, firm or corporation bringing the alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or alligator parts into the state has obtained written permission from the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. All alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators possessed, sold, purchased, exported, imported, or brought into the state from another state shall be accompanied by documented evidence that they were lawfully taken. Documented evidence shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(a) A resource user license or permit number allowing the taking of alligators and tags or other identification required by the state or country of origin shall be firmly attached to the alligator, alligator hide, or parts of alligators; and

(b) A tag or label is affixed to the outside of any package or container of alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts that specifies type of contents, indicates quantity contained, and lists applicable license or permit numbers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Purchases of alligators, alligator hides and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may not purchase alligators or alligator hides from anyone.

(b) A licensed fur buyer may purchase alligator hides from an Louisiana licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur dealer, or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(c) A licensed fur dealer may purchase alligator hides from a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, fur buyer or another fur dealer.

(d) A licensed alligator farmer may purchase live alligators only from another licensed alligator farmer or the Department.

(e) An alligator farmer may purchase alligator eggs only from another alligator farmer, a landowner/land manager (with an approved Department alligator egg collection permit), or the Department.

(f) A licensed alligator parts dealer may purchase alligator parts from an licensed alligator hunter, alligator farmer, another alligator parts dealer, or the Department.

(g) A licensed parts retailer may purchase canned alligator parts or alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer.

(h) A restaurant may purchase alligator meat to sell prepared for human consumption with a alligator parts retailer license.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Sales of alligators and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may sell alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts taken by the licensee during the general open season to anyone who may legally purchase.

(b) A licensed alligator farmer may sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligator hides, or alligator parts to anyone who may legally purchase. The sale of alligator eggs or live alligators shall only occur following the issuance of an Alligator Transfer Authorization Permit issued by the Department. Application for the permit shall be made at least 2 weeks prior to the transfer.

(c) A licensed fur buyer may sell alligator hides to a fur dealer or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(d) A licensed fur dealer may sell alligator hides to anyone who may legally purchase.

(e) A licensed alligator parts dealer may sell alligator parts to anyone.

(f) A licensed alligator parts retailer may sell canned alligator parts, processed alligator parts, or alligator meat to anyone.

(g) A restaurant possessing an alligator parts retailer license may sell alligator meat prepared for human consumption to anyone.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Legally tagged and documented alligators, alligator hides, and parts of alligators taken in Louisiana may be shipped out of state or exported by alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur dealers and alligator parts dealers subject to Subsection K of these regulations (relating to Report Requirements) provided that no live alligators or eggs originating in Louisiana may be exported outside of the United States without specific Department authorization and the concurrence of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to be used only for scientific purposes. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. A special permit is required of anyone who sells alligator eggs, live alligators under four (4) feet in length, or skins of alligators under four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

J. Nuisance Alligator Control.

1. Nuisance alligator hunters will be selected by the Department and may be based upon recommendations received from the local governing body. Applicants with prior alligator hunting violations will be rejected.

2. Nuisance alligator hunters shall purchase a valid alligator hunter license and are bound by all laws, rules and regulations governing alligator hunting with the exception that nuisance alligators may be taken at anytime. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Nuisance alligator complaints will be verified by Department personnel prior to being approved for removal. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Tags will be issued to nuisance alligator hunters for immediate attachment to alligators when taken. Nuisance alligator hunters will make every attempt possible to catch nuisance alligators and relocate to natural habitat selected by the Department. It is unlawful for any nuisance alligator captured alive to be sold or otherwise disposed of on an alligator farm. Alligators and alligator parts taken and tagged under these provisions may be retained and sold by the nuisance alligator hunter as any other legally taken wild alligator or alligator part. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Nuisance alligator hunters may take alligators by any means prescribed by the Department. Failure to comply with Departmental instructions may result in immediate termination of the individual's participation in the nuisance alligator program. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

K. Report Requirements.

1. Report forms provided by the Department must be completed and filed with the Department by all persons who have been issued an alligator hunter's license, fur buyer's license, fur dealer's license, nongame quadruped exhibitor's license, nongame quadruped breeder's license, alligator parts dealer's license, or alligator egg collection permit in accordance with this Subsection. Reports shall include but not be limited to the information specified in this Subsection.

2. Alligator hunters receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

(c) All unused tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Violation of this requirement shall result in no license or alligator tags being issued to the violator for a period of one year.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department.

(e) Each licensed alligator hunter selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall provide that person with a bill of sale for each transaction.

(f) All records of transactions involving alligator parts of alligator hunters shall be available for inspection by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. A nuisance alligator hunter shall comply with the same report requirements as an alligator hunter and complete any other reports required by the Department. Violation of this requirement shall result in immediate termination of nuisance alligator hunter status. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator farmers receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(c) All unused hide tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Violation of this requirement shall result in the revocation of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid of any alligator hide not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(e) Each alligator farmer shall report annually, no later than December 31, on an official form provided by the Department, all activities that have occurred on the farm for the past year including but not limited to the number of live alligators as of that date, separated by sizes, the number of eggs collected and hatched, the purchase and sale of alligators for the past year and the numbers of alligators lost. Failure to complete this form properly and completely will result in non renewal of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

(f) Each licensed alligator farmer selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall furnish that person with a bill of sale for each transaction. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation.

5. Fur buyers and fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must keep within the state a complete record on forms provided by the Department, all purchases and sales made of alligator hides as described in Title 56, and;

(a) Every buyer or dealer having undressed alligator hides in his possession after the close of each open season shall file with the Department within 60 days or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report, on forms provided by the Department, a detailed description of alligator hides then owned or held in possession as owner or agent.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. Fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must maintain complete records of alligator hides purchased inside and outside the state as described in Title 56. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the required severance tax subjects any dealer to the full penalties provided and the immediate revocation of his license by the Department. No license shall be issued to a dealer who has not paid the tax for the preceding year. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator parts dealers purchasing alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts purchase form for each purchase. Alligator parts dealers selling alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the Department and shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the open season and at 60-day intervals until final disposition of all wild parts. These forms shall be submitted annually for all farm raised alligator parts, and;

(a) Alligator parts dealers shall furnish a bill of sale to anyone purchasing alligator parts.

(b) The records of transactions involving alligator parts shall be available for inspection by the Department and shall be maintained complete for a period of one year following any transaction.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Any alligator parts retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase and these records shall be available for inspection by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

L. Alligator Meat.

1. Alligator meat from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to state and federal laws, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator meat processed in the State of Louisiana and sold for human consumption must be processed in a licensed facility approved by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the facility must display a valid permit issued by that agency. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator carcasses being shipped whole shall be tagged with an alligator parts tag properly identifying the carcasses and shall remain on the carcasses until the processing makes identification impossible. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator hunters and alligator farmers involved in alligator parts transactions with individual consumers shall properly tag all alligator parts and the parts tag shall remain attached until final disposition. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. All alligator meat processed for sale must be packaged in suitable containers which identifies the contents as alligator meat, is marked with a valid Department license number and comply with all state and federal packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. All alligator meat shipped into the state and being offered for sale must meet all of Louisiana's health, processing, packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

M. Disposal of Alligators by the Department.

1. The Department may sell alligators, alligator eggs or parts of alligators taken for any purpose deemed necessary for proper management of the species pursuant to Title 56.

2. The Department may dispose of alligators, alligator eggs, or parts of alligators by donation or lending to a scientific institution or other institutions that the Department deems have need for such alligators, however these institutions cannot sell or barter these animals and must be returned to the Department at the conclusion of the program or need.

3. Confiscated alligator hides and parts may be destroyed by the Department pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

4. Confiscated live alligator eggs or alligators will be cared for by the Department and released in suitable alligator habitat when and where they can survive. All costs incurred by the Department in the maintenance of these eggs and animals in captivity shall be the responsibility of the offender and restitution shall be made to the Department.

N. Alligator Egg Collection.

1. Alligator egg collection permits are a three party permit between the Department, the permittee and a landowner/manager

who owns or leases alligator nesting habitat determined by Department biologists to be capable of producing alligator eggs. The numbers of eggs to be collected will be based upon biological management criteria and will be determined annually by technical staff of the Department. The Department only estimates the numbers of eggs available and assumes no responsibility or offers no guarantee that those numbers of eggs will be available. Alligator egg collection permits may be obtained upon application to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The annual deadline for submitting applications for Alligator Egg Collection Permits is June 1. This program is experimental and may be changed at any time based on biological data to insure for proper management of the wild alligator population.

2. Alligator egg collection permits may be issued by the Department provided:

(a) Permittee is a properly licensed alligator farmer and meets all applicable requirements in Subsection O of these regulations (Alligator Farm Facility Requirements).

(b) All land documentation required on the alligator egg collection permit has been presented to the Department.

(c) Department biologists determine the properties described on the permit application are indeed alligator nesting habitat and can sustain alligator egg collections.

(d) Applicant has obtained all legal and necessary signatures from landowners/land managers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. It is unlawful for an alligator farmer or a permitted Designated Collection Agent to collect eggs from properties other than those described in the alligator egg collection permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. An alligator farmer or designated collection agent in the act of collecting or possessing alligator eggs must possess on his or her person a copy of the fully executed alligator egg collection permit. The designated collection agent must also possess a valid designated collection agent permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Collection of wild alligator eggs can only be made after contacting the appropriate Department Enforcement Agent no

less than 24 hours prior to each collection trip. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Alligator eggs can only be collected from the wild from official sunrise to official sunset and only during the established alligator egg collection season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator eggs collected from the wild must be collected and transported in a manner which insures the greatest survival of viable eggs as determined by Department biologists. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each clutch of alligator eggs collected should be maintained as a separate entity from time of collection through incubation and hatching.

9. Failure to hatch at least 70% of viable alligator eggs collected from the wild shall be considered a waste of Louisiana's natural resources. All alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued should an alligator farmer be found to waste the resources of this state for two consecutive years.

10. Alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued to alligator farmers who fail to average a minimum hatchling survival rate of 85% for two consecutive years.

11. The alligator egg collection permittee and the landowner are responsible for returning the percentage of live alligators to the wild described on the alligator egg collection permit. This requirement is nontransferable. Minimum return rates will be based upon the state average hatching success which is 78%. Each alligator shall be returned to the original egg collection area. Each alligator shall be a minimum of 48" in size and the returned sex ratio should contain at least 50% females. The Department shall be responsible for supervising the required return of these alligators. Releases back to the wild will only occur between April 15 and September 15 of each calendar year. Should an alligator egg collection permittee be unable to release the required number of alligators to the wild from his own stock, he shall be required to purchase additional alligators from another farmer to meet compliance with the alligator egg collection permit and these regulations, as supervised by the Department. Department sanctioned participants in ongoing studies involving survivability and return rates are exempt from these requirements during the period of the study.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. The percentage of 48" alligators to be returned to the wild shall be selected from the healthiest of all alligators of that year class. Abnormal or deformed alligators are not acceptable for release into the wild. It is unlawful for alligators that are to be returned to the wild to be transported out of state. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

O. Alligator Farm Facility Requirements.

1. All first time applicants for a nongame quadruped breeder's or exhibitor's license who will house alligators on their premises shall show compliance of the following minimum facilities as applicable to their particular operation during a required facility examination by Department personnel prior to license issuance:

(a) Secured premises with adequate barriers to prevent escape of enclosed alligators and entry by alligators from outside the farm and to deter theft of alligators.

(b) Source of clean, fresh water which shall be adequate to ensure for proper care of all alligator stock and facilities. This requirement shall be determined by Department personnel.

(c) Provisions for both dry area and pooled water within the secured area adequate for the numbers of alligators to be housed on the premises. This requirement will be determined by Department personnel.

(d) Provision for winter protection, either through adequate denning space or an enclosed, controlled-temperature environment of a design acceptable to the Department.

(e) All controlled-temperature alligator sheds shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each shed shall be capable of maintaining a minimum constant temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit. Minimum space requirements for alligators housed in the shed shall be:

(i) One square foot of space shall be required for each alligator less than 24" in length.

(ii) Three square feet of space shall be required for each alligator measuring 25" to 48" in length.

(iii) One additional square foot of space shall be required for each additional 6 inches of alligator length for alligators above four feet in length.

(f) All alligator egg incubators shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each incubator shall maintain a water and air temperature of 85 to 91 degrees fahrenheit during the egg incubation.

(g) Applicant must be in compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to zoning, construction, health and environmental standards and must possess any and all applicable permits and licenses.

(h) All alligator facilities should be constructed in an suitable location so as to minimize contact with people.

2. Following initial issuance of applicable license, all applicable facility requirements shall be adhered to and Department personnel have the authority to inspect any and all of the facilities at any time. Failure to adhere to the requirements shall be a violation of these rules and violators will be given 60 days to correct the problem. Failure to comply shall result in confiscation of all animals and/or closure of all facilities. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. All alligator farmers possessing alligator eggs outside an alligator nest should house these eggs in identifiable original clutch groups in an incubator providing constant temperature and humidity conditions. All incubators used to incubate alligator eggs shall be of a design to allow for maximum temperature control and conform to Department requirements to allow for the maximum hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. All alligator farmers possessing alligator hatchlings shall house hatchlings in controlled environmental chambers capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit year round and containing dry and wet areas of sufficient surface area to permit all alligators to completely submerge in water and completely exit from water and orient in any direction, without touching the sides of the chambers. All alligators 48" or less in length shall be housed in environmental chambers unless a special permit is issued by the Department to move them to outside growth areas. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator farmers shall house alligators of different lengths into at least three groups, providing separation for

all alligators less than two feet in length, two to four feet in length, and over four feet in length. Land and water areas sufficient for complete submersion or complete exit from water shall be provided for each group of alligators held. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Nesting activity of captive alligators shall be recorded with weekly accounts of nests constructed, eggs collected, number of viable eggs set and hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Complete written records shall be maintained by the license holder and shall be submitted to the Department on a standardized annual report form provided by the Department, which shall be provided as part of the annual license renewal. These reports must be submitted no later than December 31 of each year. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

8. All facilities, alligator stock, and records are subject to examination by Department personnel prior to permitting and thereafter during farm operation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

9. It shall be unlawful for alligator eggs or alligators to be moved from a licensed premises without approval of the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

P. Exceptions.

1. These regulations do not require licenses, labels, or permits for consumers who purchase or possess goods processed or manufactured from alligators which have been legally taken or raised, provided that such goods are used by the consumer and are not sold or bartered in conjunction with a wholesale or retail business activity.

2. The Department or an authorized representative of the Department may take by any means and possess alligators or parts of alligators while in the performance of official duties.

3. These regulations shall not prohibit a person from killing an alligator in immediate defense of his or her life or the lives of others. Alligators killed under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. These regulations do not require a state license or permit of persons who deal in finished alligator leather products.

Q. Penalty for Violation.

1. In order to facilitate greater control over alligator trafficking, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries finds that public welfare imperatively requires emergency action when the provisions of these regulations are violated.

2. If citations are issued for a violation of these regulations, all licenses and tags belonging to or in the possession of the cited party shall be suspended until such time as the said party appears before Department officials for purposes of reviewing the citations issued. The Secretary, after reviewing the proceedings may reinstate or revoke the suspension. The alleged violator may lose all ~~rights and privileges to participate in this program~~ if found guilty by criminal or civil process.

3. The Department shall have the authority to confiscate any alligators or alligator eggs from any person or facility that is not caring for the alligators or alligator eggs in a humane manner. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs consists but is not limited to conditions which could have an adverse effect upon the alligators or alligator eggs such as sanitary conditions, temperature control, feeding, or overcrowding. The confiscated alligators and alligator eggs shall be disposed of as the Department deems necessary. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. In addition to all penalties set forth herein, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution under provisions of: the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Titles 14 and 56 and under Federal law.

5. In addition to all other penalties provided by these rules and by statute, violation of any part of these regulations may result in the suspension and/or revocation of any or all alligator licenses held by the violator and, as further penalty, for serious, repeat, or multiple violations, the Department shall have the right to deny a violator any and all licenses relating to alligators for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed regulations to Johnnie W. Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:260, 262, 262.1 and 262.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Phil Bowman presented a Declaration of Emergency for the Opening of the Fall Inshore "White" Shrimp Season. Mr. Bowman presented a resolution establishing the opening of the fall inshore white shrimp season. The season will open on the third Monday in August which is August 20 for Zones 1, 2, and 3 at 6 a.m. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will have the authority granted by the Commission to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any areas or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so. Mr. Vujnovich asked Mr. Bowman if August 20 was not kind of late to be opening the season. Mr. Bowman stated that this is the third Monday in August, which is not set by legislation, and the Commission has total flexibility irregardless of any dates on the setting of this season. Mr. Bowman did some legal research as to how these frameworks were set and since 1920 the opening of the fall season has been somewhere around mid August. Since 1958 it has been the third Monday in August and the staff recommendation for this year is that this be continued. The way the calendar falls this date is almost the latest possible date stated Mr. Bowman. Mr. Vujnovich explained why he had asked Mr. Bowman this question. He has had calls from shrimpers telling him they would appreciate it if the season could be opened sooner due to the fact of the size and number of shrimp. Mr. Bowman stated that there is a mechanism in the resolution that can accommodate this but at this particular point in time it is the staff's recommendation to the Commission that the season be opened on the third Monday in August.

Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jones that the Commission adopt the resolution and declaration of emergency opening the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season on August 20 in Zones 1, 2, and 3, at 6 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution
1990 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
July 5, 1990 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries

Commission shall fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each year for all inside waters, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:967 states that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may employ the provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) when setting the shrimp season thereby allowing the most recent technical data be considered in determining the opening and closing dates, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:498 provides the minimum size count on white shrimp is 100 (whole shrimp) count per pound, and

WHEREAS, Historically biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has shown white shrimp in coastal Louisiana average 100 count minimum size or larger as provided for in R.S. 56:498 by mid-August each year, and

WHEREAS, Historically the fall inshore "white" shrimp season opened on the third Monday in August, and

WHEREAS, In 1990 the third Monday in August will be August 20.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2, and 3 at 6 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol, Chairman

(The full text of the emergency declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953 and 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:497, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following rule:

Effective at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby sets the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2, and 3 and authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.

Warren Pol
Chairman

Mr. Bowman proceeded to bring the Commission up to date on the closing of the spring inshore season. The department recommended that the season be closed in Zone 2 on June 28 which it was. There is a significant recruitment of juvenile white shrimp in the other areas of the state and as a result of this, with Secretary Van Sickle's concurrence, the shrimp season in Zones 1 and 3 will close at 12.01 a.m. Wednesday, July 11, 1990 with no exceptions, announced Mr. Bowman. The Breton - Chandeleur Sound will close due to some hydrological conditions in the area, namely some freshwater input, and juvenile white shrimp in the western portion of the sound are being seen stated Mr. Bowman.

Chairman Pol asked how the shrimp season was so far. Mr. Bowman advised that the department thinks, based on the information that has been received so far and without the June landings, that the brown shrimp portion of the season this year will be one of the better seasons. For the month of May there was over twenty one million pounds of shrimp landed in Louisiana which might be a record stated Mr. Bowman and informed the Commission that they had just returned from a meeting in Galveston, Texas with the people from the National Marines Fisheries Service and it has been projected that the brown shrimp season west of the Mississippi in Louisiana will be somewhere in the neighborhood of sixty million pounds which is about three times the historical average. It looks like it has been a good brown shrimp season concluded Mr. Bowman.

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Clark asked Mr. Barney Barrett to give a brief Report on the Mega Borg Oil Spill. Mr. Barrett, Geologist with the Office of Fisheries, reported that when the Mega Borg first broke up it was burning and the oil was confined to Texas. Around June 16 samples were taken from around Holly Beach, west of Calcasieu Pass, which turned out to be from the Mega Borg. Dr. Overton at LSU, world expert on hydrocarbon analysis, did the analysis. The department personnel have been sampling in Calcasieu and they took oil samples from the lower ship channel and additional samples from the beach with most of these turning out to be Mega Borg oil. Sixty samples were taken yesterday from the oyster reef in the lower Calcasieu area and some of these are in Dr. Overton's office now advised Mr. Barrett. Tar balls were found from the beach at Grand Isle westward to the Texas-Louisiana line.

The furthest to the east that Mega Borg oil was found was near the mouth of the Mergantau. The samples that were taken at Grand Isle, Chandeleur and Freshwater Bayou have not been analyzed. At this point it is an expense on the wildlife department and cost seven hundred dollars to analyze an oil sample. About five thousand dollars worth of samples will be done on the oyster areas advised Mr. Barrett. The consensus of NOAA and the other federal agencies are that there is not much Mega Borg oil in Louisiana and once the results are in from the oyster area the department will let the Commission know stated Mr. Barrett.

Mr. McCall asked Mr. Barrett from what he knows at this time has there been any damage in Louisiana from the Mega Borg. Mr. Barrett stated that from what they know now there has not been, but there have been sightings of dead turtles which NOAA believes died from other causes and not the oil. Mr. McCall asked if any of the oil went up into the Calcasieu Ship Channel and how far north did it go. Mr. Barrett answered yes and it was sampled just at the intersection of the lower part of Calcasieu where it broadens out and was analyzed as Mega Borg oil. Mr. McCall asked if it were a possibility that some of the oil got into the lake. Mr. Barrett answered yes there is. Mr. Vujnovich asked if the oyster had any oil taste in them. Mr. Barrett stated that he did not know, they were brought in frozen to Dr. Overton. Chairman Pol thanked Mr. Barrett for his report.

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark presented a Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent on Jewfish Closure. Dr. Clark informed the Commission that the issue today is a relatively minor one and the Commission should be familiar with it because they have been dealing with it for about a year. It has to do with the federal reef fish plan and amendments that have taken place. One of the things mentioned to the Commissioners at the Monroe meeting was that there was a follow up action by the National Marine Fisheries Service on Jewfish and that it looked like they were going to be proposing a emergency closure on the jewfish. This closure is now in place and the department is following up with a Louisiana closure, advised Dr. Clark. The department has both an emergency declaration and a notice of intent on the jewfish closure. The emergency declaration will be effective in seventy two hours. The notice of intent will give notice to closure on jewfish starting on November 1, 1990 to October 31, 1993 for a three year period.

Chairman Pol called for motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to adopt the declaration of emergency and notice of intent on the jewfish closure. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Declaration of Emergency is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedure Act; R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and size limits and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto, and R.S. 56:22 which authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to prohibit the taking of any species of fish for not more than the three year period, when it deems it for the best interest of the state; the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that imminent peril to the public welfare exists, hereby declares an emergency and adopts the following rule:

EMERGENCY RULE

Pursuant to R.S. 56:22, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters. The emergency rule shall become effective 12:00 noon, Monday July 9, 1990, and shall expire upon the effective date of the final rule. The final rule shall expire upon October 31, 1993.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the Notice of Intent is made a part of the record).

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to prohibit the harvest and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) within or without Louisiana's territorial waters. The measures are to be consistent with federal regulations which were designed to restore the declining jewfish resource.

The proposed rule will read as follows:

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 337. Taking and Possession of Jewfish Prohibited

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters for the three year period November 1, 1990 to October 31, 1993.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Section 22 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to : John E. Roussel, Marine Fish Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

~~AUTHORITY NOTE:~~ Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:22.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

The Monthly Law Enforcement Report for June was given by Charlie Clark at Thursday's meeting. Mr. Clark reported the following cases made: Region I - 160 cases; Region II - 121 cases; Region III - 149 cases; Region IV - 103 cases; Region V - 295 cases; Region VI - 195; Region VII - 342; Region VIII - 322; Region IX - 210.

Mr. Clark advised that in Region VIII there was a case dealing with seizure of pelican eggs. This was a case originally set up as a complaint with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and department personnel from Fur and Refuge Division who helped the Service. This has been a highly controversial case stated Mr. Clark and will be filed both ways, state and federal.

The Rip Tide and Delta Tide had two hundred and forty eight running hours and checked a hundred and fifty nine boats, had sixty three cases all of which were trawling in closed season except for six which were oversized double rigs.

Mr. Clark advised that a news release will be coming out on the Undercover Section telling of a statewide sweep that involves the illicit sale of fish and wildlife. This involves twenty seven people that are non-related cases and the investigation covers almost a two year period which involved a lot of buys.

Mr. Jenkins asked about DWI's on boats, the boating accident on False River where the boat hit the pier and if the department was involved. Mr. Clark advised yes the department is the primary agency. Mr. Jenkins asked since the person left the scene of the accident can he be charged with a DWI. Mr. Clark stated no not under the circumstances but in many cases this is better than catching him and putting him on a machine because now there are witnesses who put him drinking and how much he drank which can be used in court. Mr. Clark went on to report on the Oyster Strike Force. They made fifty eight cases last month and seized 16 sacks of oysters, two speckled trout, black drum, a flat boat, two outboard motors, eight gill nets and one oyster dredge.

At Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle discussed the Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework. Secretary Van Sickle advised that at the last Commission meeting Mr. Wade Byrd presented a very brief summary of a facilitation conflict resolution process that was used in one of the west coast states to resolve a controversy over elk hunting similar to a controversy in Louisiana between persons who hunt with dogs and those who still hunt. Mr. Byrd has been in direct discussion with several of the Commissioners, one on one, to expand the facilitation process proposal as requested at the last meeting. In each of the Commissioner's folder there was a copy of the expanded version of the structured facilitation process for setting deer season every year and Secretary Van Sickle reviewed the process with the Commissioners. There are three reasons for instituting this process. 1) Attempt to get the Commission and department out of the middle of resource allocation issues. 2) Work toward more stabilized regulations. 3) Educate those involved in the process. There are basically five steps on how this conflict resolution process will work. The formation of an advisory group who will identify data need. The group will consist of eleven or twelve people made up of representatives from still hunters, dog hunters, landowners, Commissioners, House, and Senate. The first meeting would be held during the fall. The data needs identified by the group will be collected and compiled by technical staff within the department. Data collection should be completed by January 1. Interactive workshops will be set up statewide consisting of a series of ten statewide workshops and will be scheduled one per night for two weeks. Participation in the workshops will be encouraged by allowing everyone who participated to have a vote on the final proposal. Participants are allowed to vote on what they think are the most important issues and best solutions. The facilitators will be from the Information and Education Division of the department. These workshops will be held in late January. The data obtained in the workshops will be compiled, summarized and distributed to all workshop participants by department staff. Participants will be allowed time to comment to members of the advisory group. The advisory group, after receiving comments from workshop participants, will by consensus, develop a five year season proposal or alternatives to be presented to workshop

participants for a vote. The proposal should be developed by February. Ballots will be mailed to participants by department staff with a specific time period to receive responses. Results will be tabulated by mid-March. This will require a little bit of money on the department's part. Upon completion of review Secretary Van Sickle asked for input from the Commission on this process.

Dr. Hines stated that after he had thought about the process it looks like it might be a little overkill. This is a good process and some of it needs to be done, commented Dr. Hines. For this coming year Dr. Hines suggested that the Commission consider compromising and stopping after compiling and collecting data before going to the workshops. The recommendations will be made to the Commission Hunting Committee. If this does not work for next year then go with the full process, stated Dr. Hines. Resident game was never a problem when there was a structured season that the hunters knew of in advance, pointed out Dr. Hines. The biggest problem is the rumor mill on the season dates. Back when the deer season for Area II opened nineteen days before Thanksgiving and Area I opened five days before Thanksgiving Dr. Hines stated that he believes that there were very few at the public hearings that commented one way or the other about this. Even when hunting with dogs from the Saturday following Thanksgiving to the first Saturday in December there was a little bit of comment but not much. These were structured seasons when the hunters knew when they were going to hunt, what the seasons were, etc. Dr. Hines recommended that an advisory group be formed, let them identify the data needs from the department, compile and collect the data, present it to the Hunting Committee prior to the public hearings with the recommendations for the hunting season for 1991, let the people who come to the public hearings comment on this and go from there. If this does not work after the first year then proceed toward the workshops, stated Dr. Hines. Secretary Van Sickle commented that this would be different but at least this is a step toward getting public input and will give the dog hunters and still hunters an opportunity to make recommendations to the Commission. The recommendation for the advisory group is three dog hunters, three still hunters, two landowners, two Commissioners, one member of the House to be appointed by the Speaker, and one member of the Senate appointed by the President. Chairman Pol asked that everyone think about this and it will be brought up at Friday's meeting.

At Friday's meeting the facilitation process for deer season framework was discussed further. Chairman Pol advised that Dr. Hines had some suggestions that maybe the process was going too far in the beginning. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission and department are going to do anything different this coming year then preparations would have to be made to have some meetings this fall, and if the Commission could make a decision this month or in August this would allow for an advisory group to

be set up. Dr. Hines summarized the recommendation that he had given at Thursday's meeting which was basically to form an advisory group of twelve people to work on solving the problems with the deer season and the differences between the dog hunters and the still hunters. This group can make recommendations to the Hunting Committee of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission prior to the public hearings and that way with the Game Division's input a recommendation could be made of a possible resident game season framework. This could be discussed at the public hearings where input could be obtained from the hunters and citizens of the state, and then finalize a hunting season framework after the public hearings. Dr. Hines made a motion that the structured facilitation process during the first three phases (formation of advisory group, identify data needs/compile and collect data and advisory group report to the Hunting Committee prior to the public hearings on hunting which would begin in February 1991) be adopted.

Chairman Pol asked with the implementation of this process would there still be a need for the public hearings around the state. Dr. Hines advised that he thought there would but at least the hunters would know what the recommendations were and could discuss them. Discussion should be very limited and other things could be taken up that would be beneficial to the department, stated Dr. Hines.

Mr. Jenkins seconded Dr. Hines motion and commented that when he first looked at this process he was not sure of it but he has talked with Mr. Wade Byrd and the more he listened the more sense it made. When it goes beyond what the Commission is talking about today it does get into a lot of expense and people in trying to make it work. Mr. Jenkins asked Secretary Van Sickle if she thought it would work or be effective without going through the whole process. Secretary Van Sickle stated that she did not think it would be as effective as going through the whole process but believes good information would be obtained from the advisory group. You may go through the ten workshops and still not have a whole lot of consensus but consensus can be probably be obtained by the advisory group. Dr. Hines stated that if what he has recommended does not work then there is the alternative to go through the whole process, but if it works there has been a lot of time and effort saved.

Secretary Van Sickle advised the Commission that members for the advisory group the department could attempt to identify the still hunters and dog hunters that would best represent these two groups. For the landowners the head of the Landowners Association could serve. Dr. Hines suggested that each organization nominate six people and three be picked. The Commission will be represented by Dr. Hines and Mr. Jones. Secretary Van Sickle will take care of obtaining names for the group from the legislature.

Chairman Pol stated that he thought he understood that the formation of the advisory group was to stabilize the hunting seasons. Secretary Van Sickle commented that if some way to stabilize the hunting season could be constructed everybody would benefit from it. Chairman Pol called for a vote on the motion made by Dr Hines and seconded by Mr. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Pol advised that items number four, fourteen, seventeen and eighteen will be brought before the Commission on Friday because under Other Business Mr. Jenkins has something he wants to bring before the Commission. Mr. Jones made a motion that the rules be suspended with a two-thirds vote so that Mr. Jenkins could bring before the Commission a Resolution for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission relative to Dr. Jerry Clark. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed with Mr. Vujnovich abstaining. Mr. Jenkins advised that there has been some recent negative publicity on some work that Dr. Clark has done, some misquotes in some articles and in Mr. Jenkins' opinion a lot of this misinformation has been added to by people around the state and has created some unnecessary publicity for the department and Dr. Clark. What prompted Mr. Jenkins to request that the Commission pass a resolution on this was a recent action of the Shrimp Task Force. Mr. Jenkins proceeded to read the letter that Mr. Ted Shepard, Chairman of Shrimp Task Force, wrote to Secretary Van Sickle on June 26, 1990. "The Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has voted to request that you replace Mr. Jerry Clark as your delegate to the task force. The next meeting of the task force is in early August and we will need someone by then. If you have any questions contact me at your convenience." Mr. Jenkins then read the resolution that he proposed to the Commission. Chairman Pol stated that before any action is taken on this he would like to ask Secretary Van Sickle what her feelings were. Secretary Van Sickle stated that she was disappointed when she received the letter stating the actions of the Shrimp Task Force. Secretary Van Sickle feels that the Chief Fishery Officer for the state should be closely tied to any actions of the task force and work with them in solving some of the problems that are facing the shrimping industry. Dr. Clark has been at all but one of their meetings and he has stood by them and worked very hard to get money for the Shrimp Management Plan. He has stuck by his staff on the openings of the seasons, etc. and Secretary Van Sickle stated that she is not aware of anything that Dr. Clark has done that has warranted such action on behalf of the Shrimp Task Force. Secretary Van Sickle informed the Commission that she went with the shrimp industry, primarily processors and dealers, to the Governor to create the Shrimp Task Force and stated that she has mixed emotions at this point. Secretary Van Sickle does not want to do anything that would cause the task force not to meet anymore but on the other hand she does not think she would be doing them any favor by pulling Dr. Clark from the task force either. At this point Secretary Van Sickle advised that she agrees with the Commission's

recommendation showing support for Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark is a non-voting member of the task force as Vice-Chairman and normally a group elects a Chairman rather than having one appointed for them and this is something that the department might want to work with the task force on but beyond this Secretary Van Sickle does not see any other answers but to continue to plug away at working with the shrimp industry to develop the Shrimp Management Plan, setting the best seasons that can possibly be set and basically following the same course that Dr. Clark has for over a year, working with the shrimp industry. Chairman Pol stated that even though the task force was created by the Governor, the Shrimp Task Force has got to get along with the Commission and does not believe the task force is in any position to dictate to the Commission as to what to do and the Commission feels the same way that Secretary Van Sickle feels. Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle what was the reason of the task force for not wanting Dr. Clark to serve. Secretary Van Sickle stated that they did not give any reasons why ~~Dr. Clark should not represent the department~~ and asked Ms. Jane Black if she knew the reasons. Ms. Black was at the Shrimp Task Force meeting as a voting proxy when this action took place. Secretary Van Sickle announced that Ms. Black has been appointed as a new member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Ms. Black stated that attending the meeting at which the vote was cast if you could sum it up in any single sentence it would be that the fishermen felt a break in a sense of having a confidence in his ability to represent them because of the bad article and the fact that he did not recant in an immediate public fashion.

Chairman Pol called for motion on the resolution. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Commission adopt the resolution supporting Dr. Clark. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed with Mr. Vujnovich abstaining, reason being he does not feel that he knows Dr. Clark well enough to vote on such an issue.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, because of recent negative publicity generated by a newspaper article which misquotes Dr. Jerry Clark, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fisheries, relative to certain fisheries information, it is the intention of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to inform the public that Dr. Clark was misquoted and the media should correct the misinformation; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has recently voted to request that Dr. Clark be replaced as the Department's delegate to the Shrimp Task Force; and

WHEREAS, this Commission takes strong exception to the actions of the Shrimp Task Force and wishes to voice its support for Dr. Clark; and

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes that Dr. Clark has acted professionally and in the best interests of management of Louisiana fisheries, both commercial and recreational.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this Commission does hereby urge the Secretary of the Department to retain Dr. Clark as its delegate to the Shrimp Task Force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission does hereby commend Dr. Clark for his efforts as Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fisheries.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Secretary Van Sickle requested that another item of business be acted upon by the Commission. This item will be presented by Dr. Clark. Secretary Van Sickle advised that this dealt with a Resolution passed by the House of Representatives dealing with the Black Drum Rule. Mr. Jones made a motion that the rules be suspended with a two-thirds vote to bring before the Commission the issue of the minimum legal size of the black drum rule and a resolution by the house. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously. Dr. Clark addressed the Commission and stated that before he get into the black drum issue he would like to thank the Commission and the Secretary for their support and resolution. Dr. Clark stated that if he has made some mistakes he will apologize for them but will not apologize for the attempts he has made to do the job that he was hired to do and do it as professionally as he can.

Dr. Clark advised that the black drum issue is one that has been with the Commission for almost a year and reminded the Commission that they had passed a notice of intent to do a permanent rule on black drum. Since that time the House Natural Resources Committee scheduled an oversight hearing and the department was told that the purpose of the oversight hearing was for at least one if not more members of the committee to object to parts of the notice of intent. The hearing was scheduled on the Thursday before the end of June. The issue was scheduled as the last order of business of the day and it never came up advised Dr. Clark. This resolution has been passed since that day and states that it is a good rule that the Commission is proposing pointed out Dr. Clark. This resolution directs the Commission to change by emergency rule the minimum legal size for the commercial taking of black drum from eighteen to sixteen inches total length. The permanent rule will go into place on September 1, 1990. Dr. Clark recommended that a

emergency rule be drafted to change the legal size on black drum for commercial taking. Chairman Pol advised that the emergency rule would be taken up at Friday's meeting.

At Friday's meeting Dr. Hines made a motion to suspend the rules with a two-thirds vote to bring up the emergency declaration on the black drum. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously. Dr. Clark gave a brief history of the black drum rule and presented an emergency declaration that will suspend the current emergency rule which has an eighteen inch minimum size limit and adopt a new emergency rule that will have a sixteen inch minimum size limit which is the same minimum size limit that has been proposed in the final rule. By adopting the emergency rule today the Commission would be putting in place the sixteen inch minimum size on July 9, 1990 at 12:00 noon.

Dr. Hines made a motion that the Commission adopt the emergency rule on the sixteen inch minimum size. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the emergency declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and 967(D) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:326.1 and 326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that the current emergency regulations governing the harvest of black drum are not consistent with the proposed permanent rules, which are based on the most recent assessment of the status of the black drum populations in Louisiana and accordingly adopts the following rule:

Effective at 12:00 noon on July 9, 1990, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby rescinds the current size limits and quotas for black drum which were implemented by emergency rule on February 9, 1990 and establishes a minimum size limit of 16 inches total length for the taking and possession of black drum within and without Louisiana waters. This rule shall remain in effect until September 1, 1990.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

Chairman Pol called for motion for adjournment of the July 5, 1990 meeting. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the July 5th Commission

meeting be adjourned until July 6th at 9 a.m.. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle gave an Update on Case Disposition Reports from the District Attorneys for Mr. Kell McInnis. Secretary Van Sickle reported that Mr. McInnis was with the Governor's staff this morning with Mr. Don Puckett going through some legislative items that have to be attended to today. The disposition reporting form has been changed in accordance with the request of the District Attorney's Association. Two basic changes, one is in the format and it states what is Class I type of violations versus II, III, and IV; the other is there will be a six month report instead of a three month report. At this time, out of approximately forty District Attorneys in the state with some having two parishes per district, all but seven are reporting and expecting one more in today. There is good response at this point from the District Attorneys and with the new reporting format and the new time frame the department feels like a few more may respond, pointed out Secretary Van Sickle. If a couple of the District Attorneys refuse to turn in the reports there is nothing that the department can do about it except let the public know, stated Secretary Van Sickle. Mr. Jones asked which District Attorneys are not complying with the request? Secretary Van Sickle advised that she did not have the list at this point. It was determined that St. Bernard was one of them, and Lafourche another. Chairman Pol suggested that Mr. Vujnovich discuss this with the District Attorney in St. Bernard to see if his office would cooperate in this reporting.

Secretary Van Sickle gave the Secretary's Report to the Commission at Thursday's meeting. Secretary Van Sickle reported that there have been many violations involving Vietnamese fishermen. At the recent Gulf Council meeting in Mobile the National Marine Fisheries Service reported a hundred twenty TED violations this past shrimp season with over forty of the violators being Vietnamese shrimpers. The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife are planning to hold a workshop for the Vietnamese to educate them on the laws. This workshop will be held in the Vietnamese language. The ones who have violations will be required to attend and others will be invited.

A very unfortunate incident occurred where a Seismic Section personnel missed a bird rookery and a seismic crew went into a bird rookery at Lake St. Martin destroying about two hundred of approximately thirty thousand nests of white ibis. Secretary Van Sickle explained how seismic lines are reviewed and pointed out that the department is not required to go out and look for unique features but since the department has the data base it does.

On July 26 in New Orleans at noon the two small properties in New Orleans will be publicly bid. Ms. Baker has checked to make sure that Facility Planning has advertised the buildings properly and

an error such as last time would not occur again. The bidding will take place at the main courthouse on Loyola. Secretary Van Sickle suggested that maybe Mr. Vujnovich may want to attend.

Another item Secretary Van Sickle discussed was the joint commission meeting between Texas and Louisiana. Information was received from Texas on the agenda and Mr. Travis would like to know if the Commission would like to add anything or delete anything or change the schedule for the meeting at San Marcos, Texas at the fish hatchery. Items to be discussed are fishing items, wildlife programs, administrative issues, questions from public. Mr. Jenkins requested that Texas report on their assessment of the effects of the December 1989 freeze on fishing, particularly speckled trout and redbfish. Secretary Van Sickle requested that Dr. Clark call Gary Matlock and tell him that Louisiana would like to discuss this item. The Commission will tour the hatchery and attend a fish fry which the Texas Commission is hosting. This will be a one day only meeting and those attending from Louisiana will be returning the same day, advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Secretary Van Sickle concluded her report with some legislative items. A lot of times instead of passing a law which would change Title 56 the legislature will instruct the department or Commission through a Concurrent Resolution to do certain things. The department has received three of these. One requires the department to conduct a study to determine the maximum allowable fees that may be charged to non-resident sportsmen. This is an "urge and request". Another is to add the Calcasieu River at Cypress Bayou from Highway 28 south to the Scenic Rivers System. This is requested by Mr. McPherson. Another one is to determine the minimum requirements for those persons under the age of sixteen and over the age of sixty to be included in the total numbers of hunters and fishermen that the federal allocations of funding are based upon.

Some things that have become law are:

- 1) A bill making the Natural Heritage Data Base confidential.
- 2) A bill pertaining to Scenic Rivers Declassification which requires an objective analysis of the scenic rivers be conducted by the department before a river can be removed from the system.

Two bills that are pending are:

- 1) A bill removing Big Creek from the Scenic Rivers System.
- 2) A bill removing Bayou Darbonne from the Scenic River System.

House Bill 818 passed which requires the department to work with the Restaurant Association in developing seasons for marine fin fish, excluding speckled trout.

Representative Rodney Alexander's bill is still on the Senate floor, House Bill 848 has not passed. (Deer Season)

House Bill 840 the Mariculture Bill which would extend the Cheramie's operation is enrolled and awaits the Governor's signature. Department representatives are speaking with the Governor's office this very moment about this bill, Secretary Van Sickle stated.

Several bills passed and are pending enrollment regarding oyster leasing. There were six bills that were filed by Senator Nunez, Representatives Siracusa and Patti that would basically endorse the current leasing system.

The bill that Colonel Winton Vidrine (1265) has been working on dealing with the Class I violations is still pending on the Senate Floor. Passed the House 94-4 and out of committee without objection. This bill will generate between six hundred to eight hundred thousand dollars for the department. Language in the bill ~~that would require that this money be spent on law enforcement.~~

Representative Chris John's bill passed that would allow the department to set seasons under emergency procedure and after the 120 days have passed the department would not have to go back and set them again.

Bills were introduced for the oyster industry (Patti) with a couple still pending and couple of them passing. One bill setting the maximum width on oyster dredges at six feet has passed. One bill increasing the percent tolerance on dead shell up to ten percent has passed.

Dr. Clark's bill which allows the department to stock trout and have a stamp for rainbow trout passed. These fish would be put in lakes like City Park and has been a very successful program in other states. Hopefully this fall the program will begin.

The bill on alligator hunting violations that was put forth by the Alligator Task Force was passed and enrolled.

A bill that has passed and enrolled is the bill that would prohibit the use of spotter planes to spot finfish other than herring-like species such as menhaden. The bill was not amended.

Another bill that just passed extends the two year requirement on a resident artist for the Louisiana Duck Stamp Program.

Concluding her report, Secretary Van Sickle asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jenkins asked about the Scenic Rivers Program. Secretary Van Sickle explained that the department has had the Scenic Rivers Program since 1964 and the task force that was formed is no longer in existence because they did their job and put out a report.

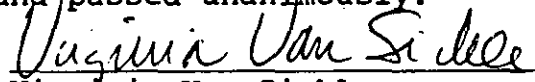
There is a Scenic Rivers Section which is supervised by Mr. Blue Watson and he has two people that work with him on the scenic rivers. Mr. Jenkins asked if the Commission could get a report in the next month or two from the Scenic Rivers Section. Secretary Van Sickle stated that this could be done.

At Friday's meeting the October Meeting Dates were set. The meeting will be on October 4th and 5th, 1990 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the department headquarters.

Chairman Pol stated that he has received about thirty phone calls in the last two weeks relative to the scarcity of speckled trout and requested that Secretary Van Sickle have Mr. John Roussel give a report on the assessment. Dr. Clark advised that sometimes next week his staff is preparing an assessment of the current status of stocks of several species (red drum, black drum, spotted seatrout) on the basis of the most recent information obtained from the nets which will be through May. This will be the first preliminary assessment including statistical analysis of the data on the freeze and Dr. Clark advised that he will be happy to put this in the mail to the Commissioners as soon as there is a final version of the report which will be before the next meeting and will also put it on the agenda. Chairman Pol stated that he thought this was a good idea as it is of interest to the commercial and recreational fisheries. Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark if it was possible that shrimp boats fishing very close to the shore may be contributing to the problem of no spotted seatrout. Dr. Clark advised that there has been numerous bycatch studies done throughout the Gulf states and red drum and spotted seatrout almost never show up as bycatch in shrimp trawls.

Mr. Jenkins stated that he would like to make a request of the Game Division. He has personally received a lot of phone calls on the dove season asking that a sixty day, fifteen bird season be considered as opposed to seventy and twelve. Mr. Jenkins would like to get some updated information before next season on whether people would really like to do this or not. Mr. Jones has had the same sort of inquiries. Secretary Van Sickle advised that this information will be transmitted to the Game Division.

There being no other business or public comments at Friday's meeting Mr. Pol called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adjournment of the July Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.


Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

VVS:sb

Critical situation

The continued destruction of nesting habitat for the North American waterfowl leaves the species in serious danger. Reports from the northern nesting areas are grim to say the least. In fact, the duck

season may have to be closed in order to allow the birds to replenish.

Situation critical, duck hunting questionable

Unless something very much unexpected occurs on the nesting grounds officials will be hard pressed to justify allowing even as skimpy a hunting season as we had last year. Already we have heard many comments from hunters that the duck season should be closed, all hunting stopped, to give the ducks a chance to rebuild their numbers.

Unfortunately, it isn't that simple. There's no point in sending the optimum number of ducks back to the nesting grounds if there is no place for them to raise young. But some folks think that we are still killing too many ducks.

Last week we referred to an interview with Art Brazda, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Bird Management, and gave some general views of conditions on the nesting grounds as well as data regarding nesting pairs which was conducted by Brazda's group.

We'd like to comment in more detail about the information we gathered.

First, let's consider the states of North and South Dakota. When Brazda was reporting his and his cohorts' observations we asked about the Dakotas. He said, "I purposely left them until last because they are the worst. Conditions in those states look absolutely awful; it's the driest they have been since the dirty thirties."

Let's take a look at the situation there, particularly concerning mallards, everybody's favorite duck.

In South Dakota the breeding index (pairs of mated ducks) showed 183,000 present. That's 62 percent down from last year, 51 percent less than the 10 year average and 52 percent lower than the 39 year average.

In North Dakota the breeding index was 141,700 in 1990. This was 65 percent down from last year, 68 percent less than the 10 year average and down 69 percent from the long term average.

But what about the total ducks in those two states? Brazda had

told us "it's hard for people to realize it but the Dakotas, North Dakota especially, are nothing but a continuation of the beautiful duck habitat that is found in Canada. When those two states are wet they will produce 12 million ducks."

Overall, the total ducks in South Dakota are down 46 percent from last year, 35 percent less than the 10 year average and 34 percent down from the long term average. In North Dakota they are down 57 percent from last year, 66 percent from the 10 year average and 70 percent from the 39 year average.

"I can't understand when people will sit here and admit the ducks are in trouble, even our teal, yet right now Louisiana is making a push for a limited special teal season this year."

Teal are down 12 percent from last year. It is the smallest teal population since records have been kept on these species. That was started in the 1940's.

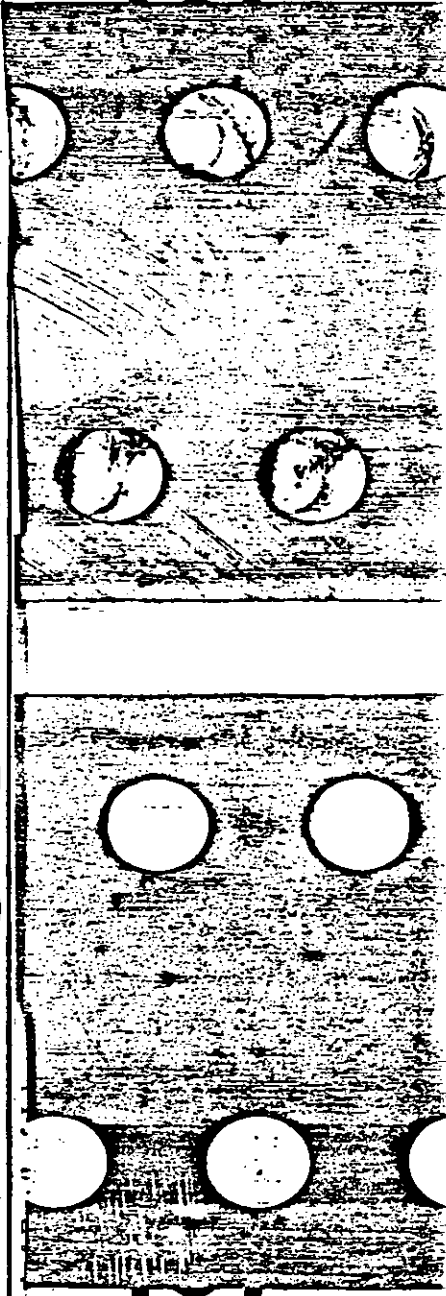
"Admittedly a large portion of the teal go through Louisiana and

fly to parts of South America. Does that mean that we have to kill them before they get to some other country? For us to have teal numbers which would justify the seasons and limits we used to have we must let as many teal as possible return to the breeding grounds to produce more birds. I cannot understand the short sighted approach. Some folks seem to have the theory, if it flies, it dies," Brazda went on.

Some professionals are questioning the practice of shooting drakes only. This is part of the belief that "we don't need all those extra drakes." This is something that we do not know. A mallard hen may have three or four drakes chasing her, following her around during spring courtship. She selects the drake with which she wants to mate. If she did not have that choice, if all she had was an anemic drake, what sort of ducklings do you get? Many professionals are not convinced that we 'don't need spare drakes.'

We can't allow the destruction of nesting habitat to continue as it is now occurring!!!

Acadiana fishing report



maybe even last season. Let's face it, the duck population in the United States has been in a decline for years. But, ducks prosper where there are observers. The Canada geese are unanimous in their opinion that the seasons in some of the katchewan great decreed duck production shadow any that may occur. This gre cover may factor to inf ducks. The da was so d ers plowed r potholes but Now there n ter in the m surrounded There is no p If there left it will dant predat easy time e selves as w they try to d ator control that was dis recent Outdd



While the water situation in Canada has improved, the lack of nesting cover and predator activity will preclude chances for an increased fall flight of ducks. At best, we should expect nothing better than the regulations provided last season.

That's the way Art Brazda, Office of Migratory Bird Management for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and who is stationed in Lafayette, summed up the situation in Canada after spending time there doing breeding pair surveys. The information gathered by crews working across the northlands is a vital step in arriving at a decision as to what our 1990-91 duck hunting season will be.

Despite the announced decision that Department of Wildlife and Fisheries biologists would again petition for an increased number of hunting days, the information Brazda brought back lends little hope that the special teal season will be re-instated. Based on what we learned we'll predict that the 1990-91 season will have no more, perhaps even fewer days in which to hunt ducks and the daily bag limit will be no larger, maybe even smaller, than it was last season.

That makes sense. One has only to put a pencil to the logic of such a proposal and it is really recognizable that the farmer, of necessity, must farm every available acre in order to recoup his expenses and make a profit. Ask anyone in business in your locality for his opinion on the subject.

The Louisiana Outdoor Writers Association has been trying to initiate a project which it termed the "Adopt-A-Pothole" program. The major problem was finding an agency in Canada which would do the legwork of finding the potholes which warranted attention, farmers who were receptive to the idea and which would serve as a liaison with the local group.

All Louisiana duck hunters wanted to know was which pothole would be named after them, how much they would have to pay the farmer and what results had been obtained on the "Boudreaux" pothole once the ducks had been fledged. Some duck clubs wanted more than one pothole.

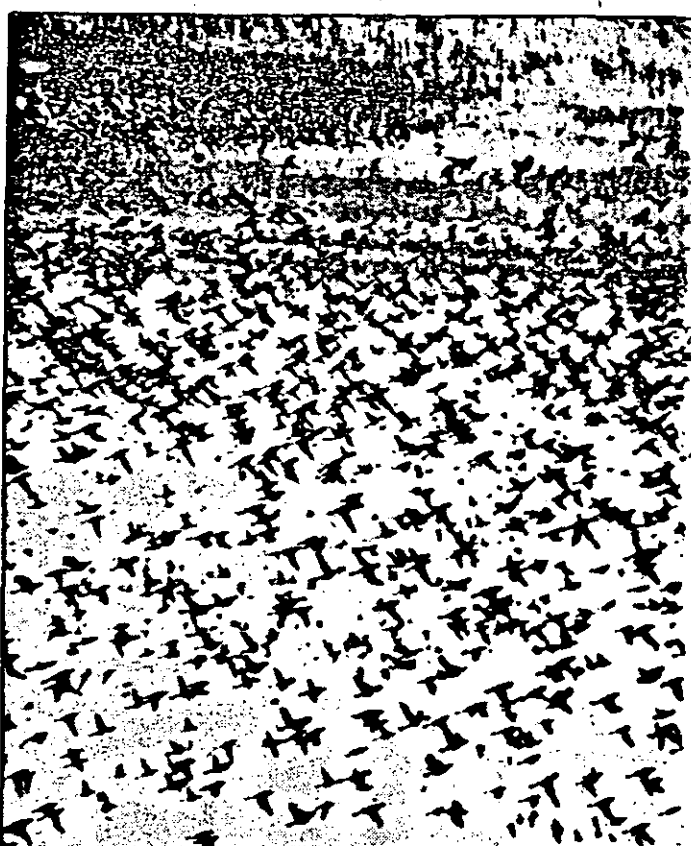
Now it's time to find out how much interest duck hunters have in this plan. Should you or/ and your duck hunting friends be interested please get in touch with your local outdoor writer. Our number is 318-783-8074.

It's up to duck hunters if the sport is to continue!

Recent Outdoor Writers of America that was discussed at length at the recent Outdoor Writers of America

ator control was one of the topics they try to defend their nest. Predators as well as the hens should themselves as the eggs them- easy time eating the eggs them- dant predators which will have an left it will attract the over abun- If there was any "edge" cover There is no place for a duck to nest!

may have to be closed in order to allow the birds to replenish



ning questionable

fly to parts of South America. Does that mean that we have to kill them before they get to some other country? For us to have teal numbers which would justify the seasons and limits we used to have we must let as many teal as possible return to the breeding grounds to produce more birds. I cannot understand the short sighted approach. Some folks seem to have the theory, if it flies, it dies," Brazda went on.

Some professionals are questioning the practice of shooting ducks only. This is part of the belief that "we don't need all those extra drakes." This is something that we do not know. A mallard hen chasing her, following her around during spring courtship. She selects the drake with which she wants to mate. If she did not have that choice, if all she had was an anemic drake, what sort of ducklings do you get? Many professional records have been since 1940's.

It is the smallest teal down 12 percent from a limited special teal year. Louisiana is making a large portion of through Louisiana and

tedly a large portion of of nesting habitat to continue as is We can't allow the destruction needed spare drakes.

Outdoor briefly

Funice Invite tournament nears

ETUNICE — Deadline for entering the Funice Invitational, one of Louisiana's leading amateur bass events, is rapidly approaching. And so is the excitement for the tournament.

"This year we could very well break the old record of sixty-six boats," said Brother Atchison, chairman of this year's invitational. "With more than a month to go we've already signed up twenty-five boats for this event and we're getting mail and telephone inquiries every day."

Entry fee for the tournament is \$50 per boat and the tournament will be fished at Indian Creek Saturday and Sunday, April 21-22.

Further information concerning the tournament may be obtained by calling (318) 457-3041.

USFW joins up with local group

CROWLEY — Under the auspices of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through its Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge, has entered into a joint venture project with a local conservation group in Southwest Louisiana.

The project was implemented on the Cormier Easement Area (formerly FMHA property) located approximately five miles northwest of Welsh. In the endeavor Fish and Wildlife Service personnel were

assisted by Acadiana Sportsmen's League members in surveying and evaluating the area for possible waterfowl use. The Acadiana Sportsmen's League donated funds that were used to improve waterfowl management on the tract.

Soon after field work was completed hundreds of ducks and geese along with many non-game animals were observed.

This joint venture project in southwest Louisiana is believed to be the first of its kind between the Fish and Wildlife Service and a

local conservation group under the banner of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

The Acadiana Sportsmen's League, domiciled in Crowley, is a local affiliate of the Louisiana and National Wildlife Federations.

For further information please call (318) 774-5923 or (318) 783-7062.

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports the acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these wildlife resources, and

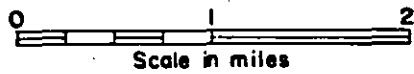
WHEREAS, the Department and the State have been previously authorized funding to acquire 1,799.38 acres in Terrebonne Parish as part of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and 504.03 acres in Bossier Parish as part of Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to take such steps as necessary to complete the acquisition of these tracts of wildlife habitat.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Commission

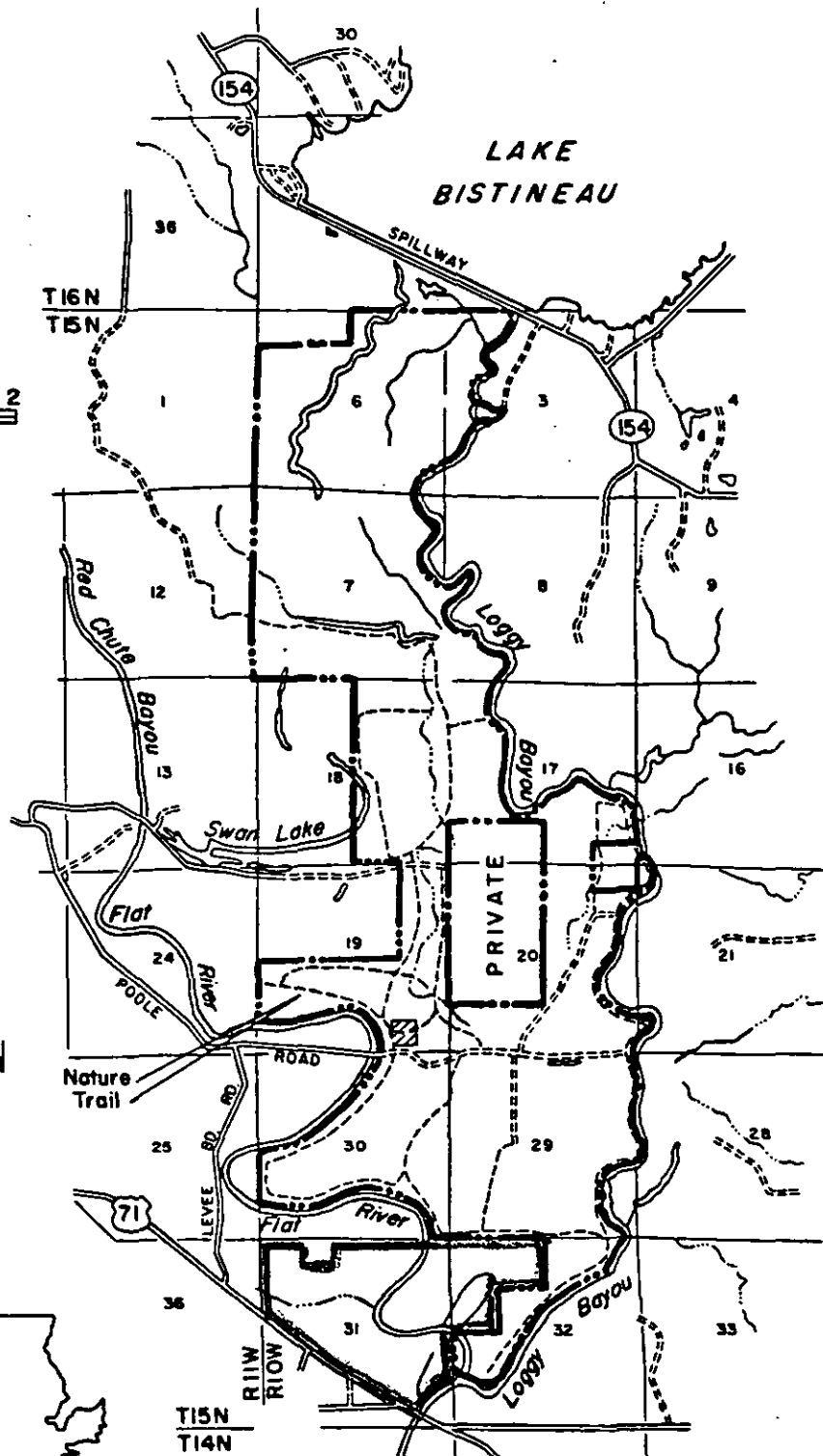
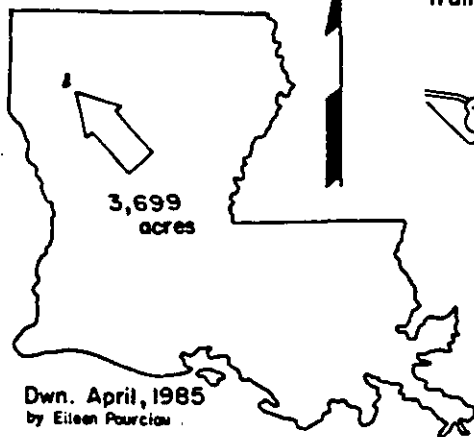
Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries

LOGGY BAYOU WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

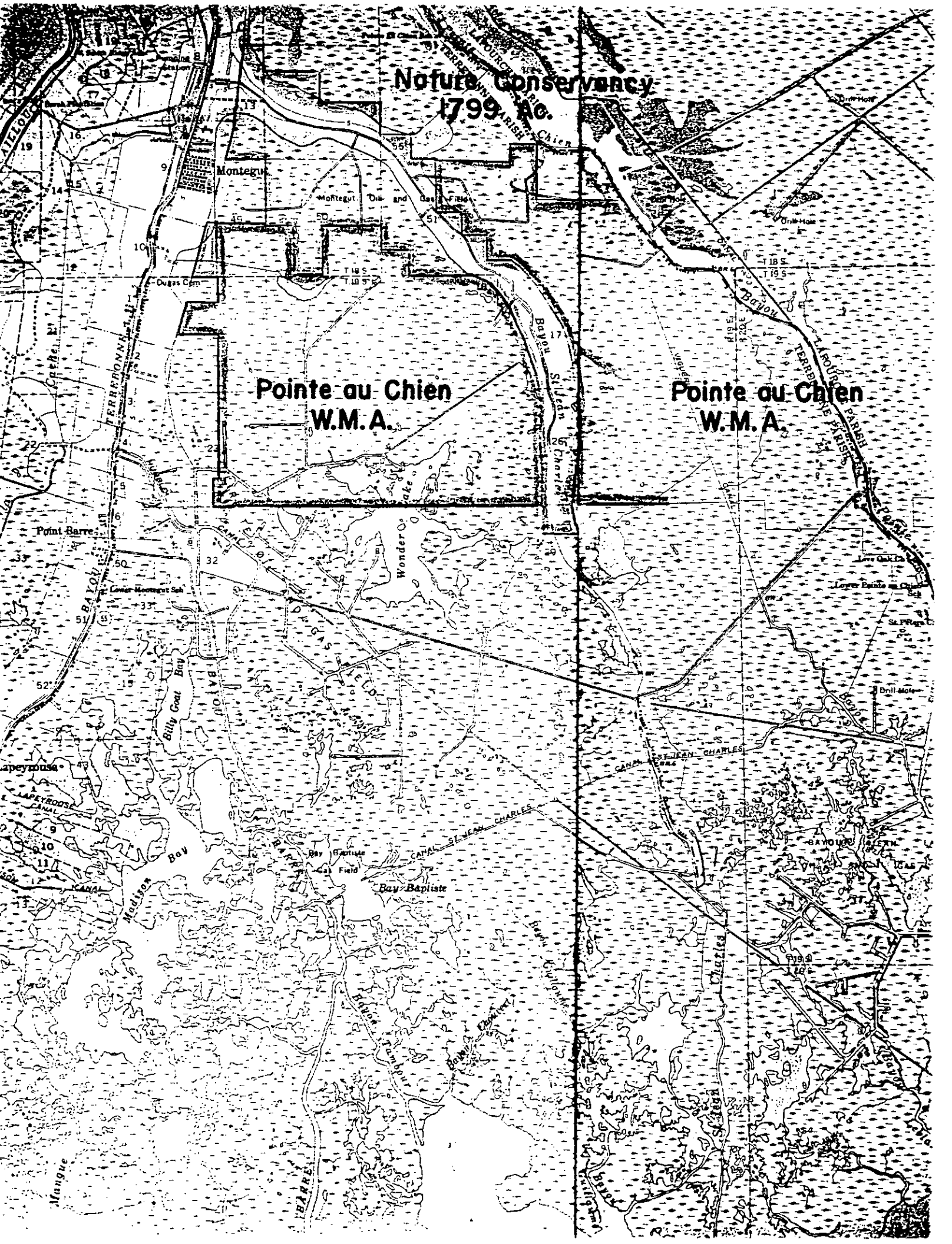


LEGEND

- Boundary
- == Improved road
- === Unimproved road
- - - Trail
- ~ Stream
- · - Intermittent stream
- ▨ Camping area



Nature Conservancy
504.03 Ac.



Nature Conservancy
1799 AC

Pointe au Chien
W.M.A.

Pointe au Chien
W.M.A.

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Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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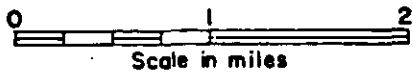
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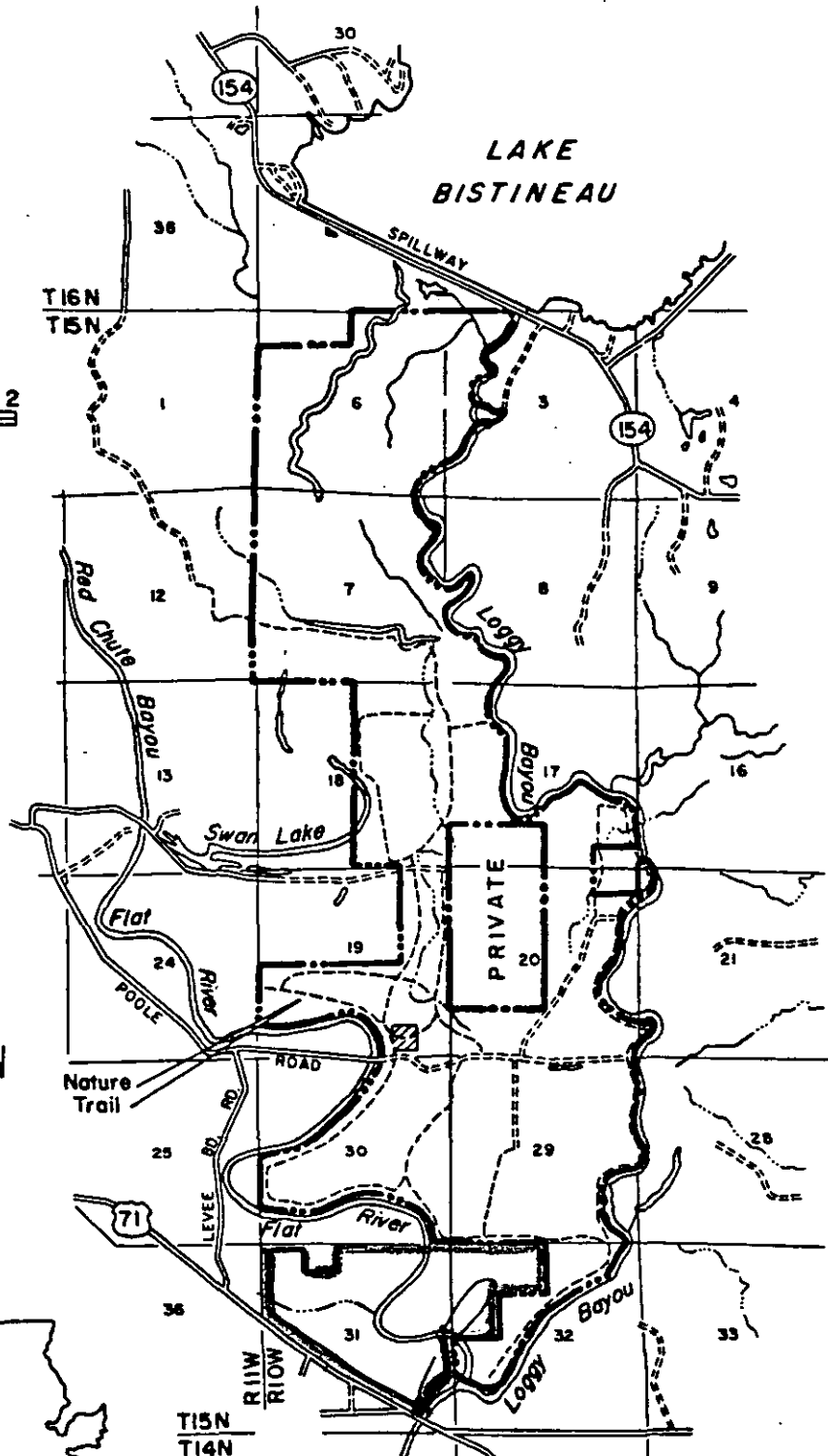
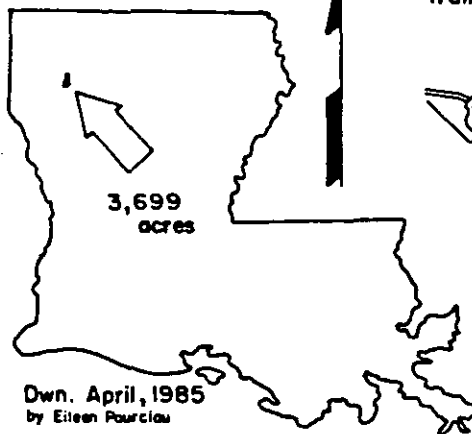
Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries

LOGGY BAYOU WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



LEGEND

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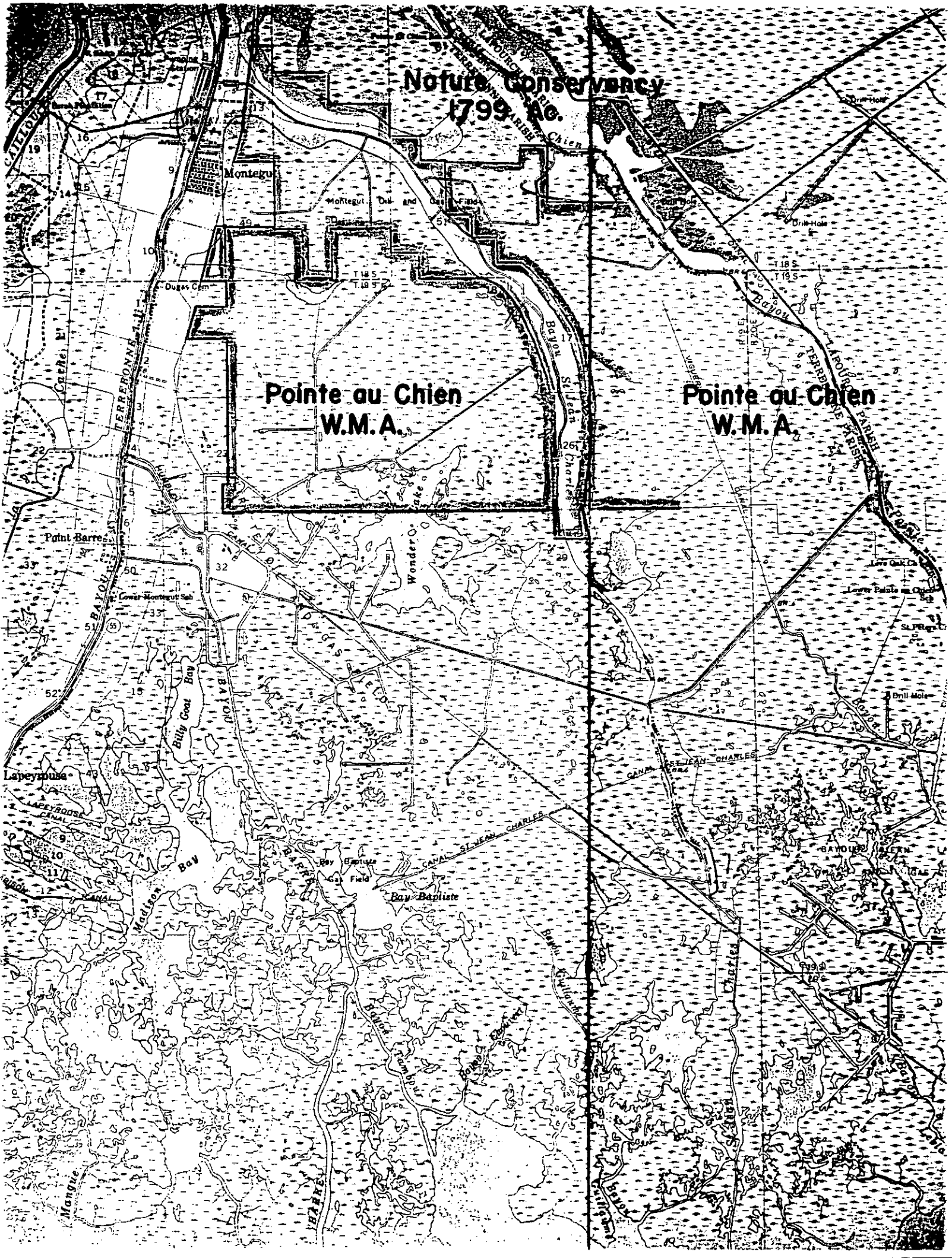


Nature Conservancy
504.03 Ac.

Nature Conservancy
1799 A.C.

Pointe au Chien
W.M.A.

Pointe au Chien
W.M.A.



#2B

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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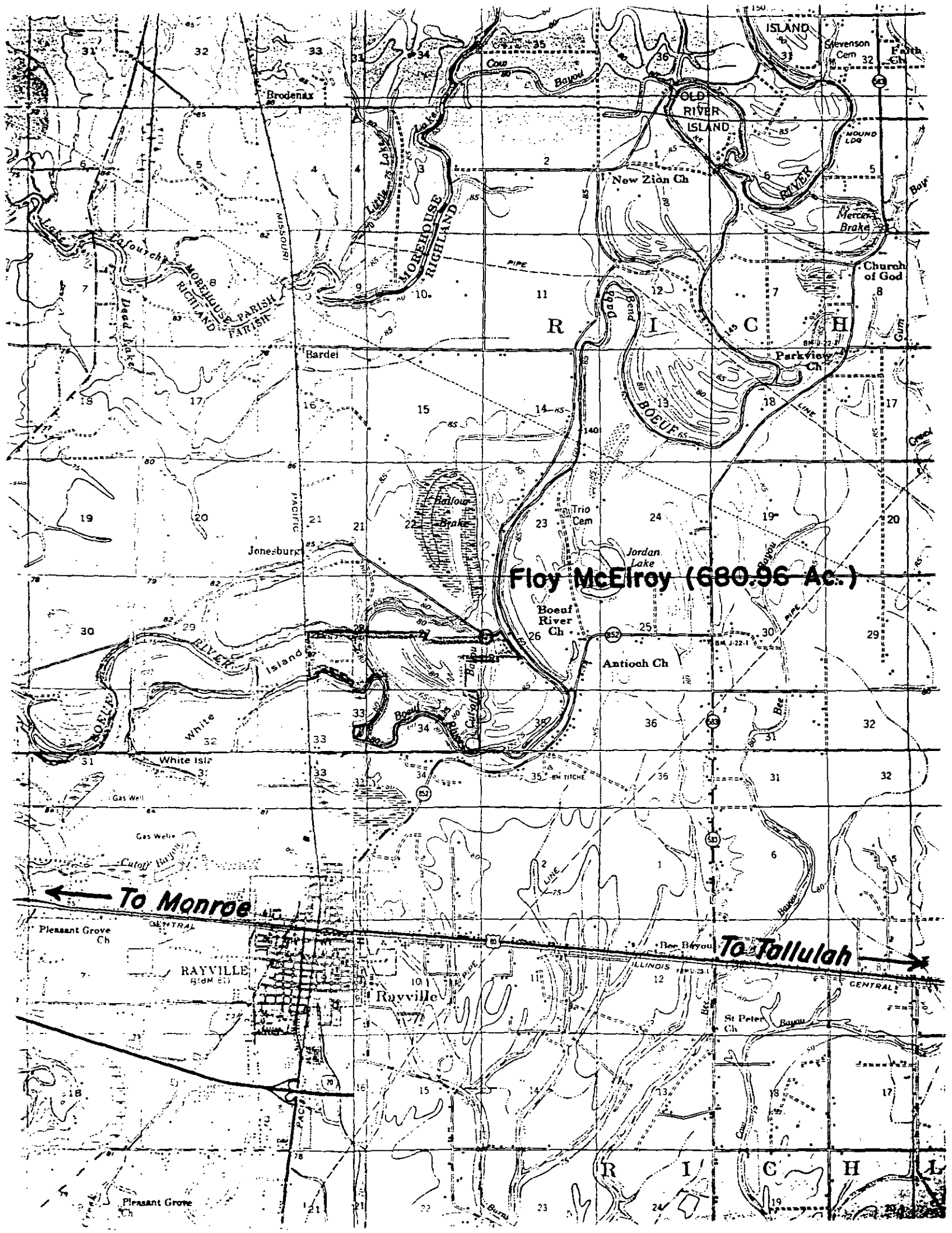
WHEREAS, Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry has offered the donation of 680.96 acres of productive wildlife habitat known as the White Island Plantation in Richland Parish to insure that these acres will be forever managed to benefit the wildlife resources and public of Louisiana, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to accept this donation of property from Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon receipt of this generous donation the tract shall be dedicated as the Floy Ward McElroy Wildlife Management Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission



Floy McElroy (680.96 Ac.)

To Monroe

To Tallulah

7B

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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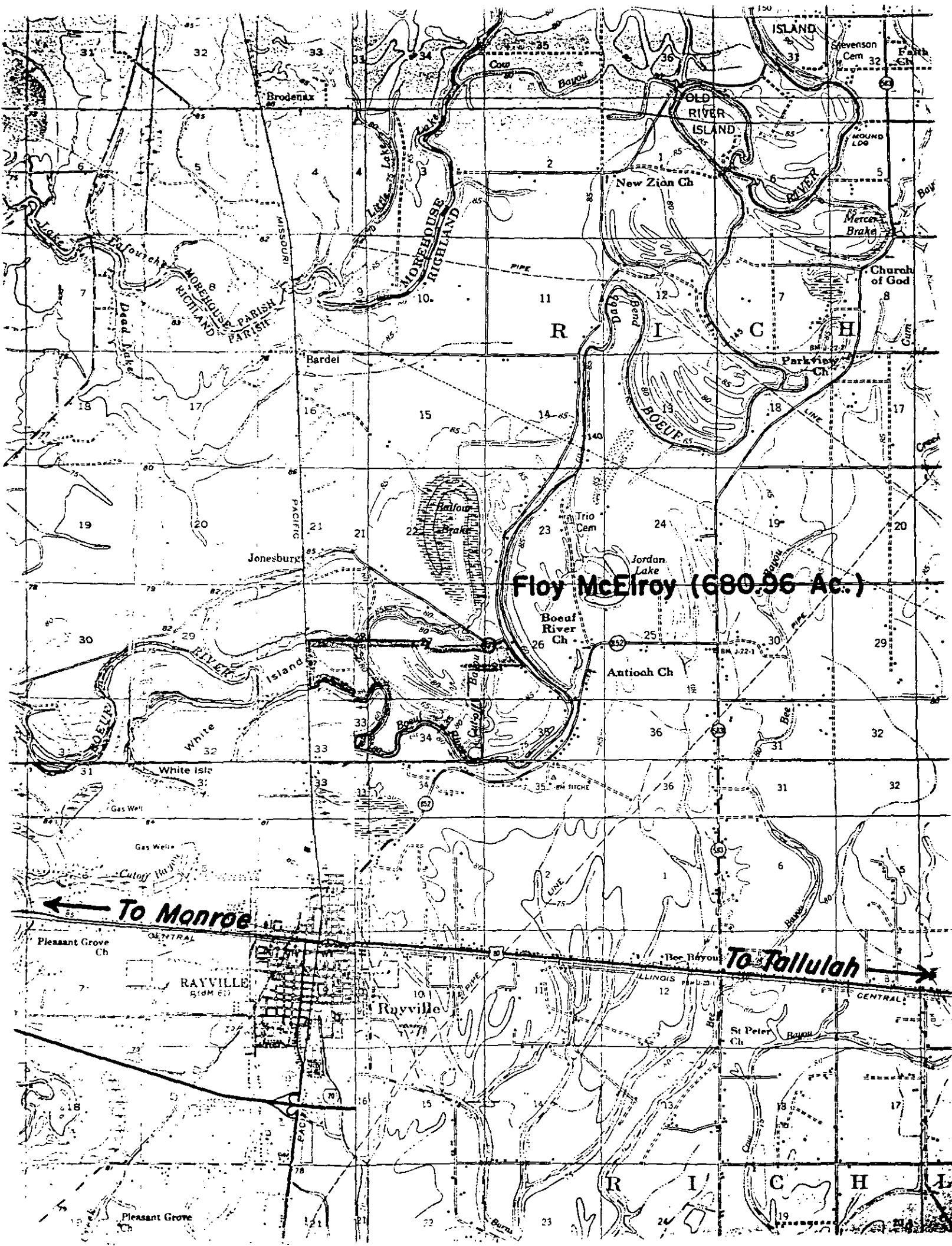
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LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission



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Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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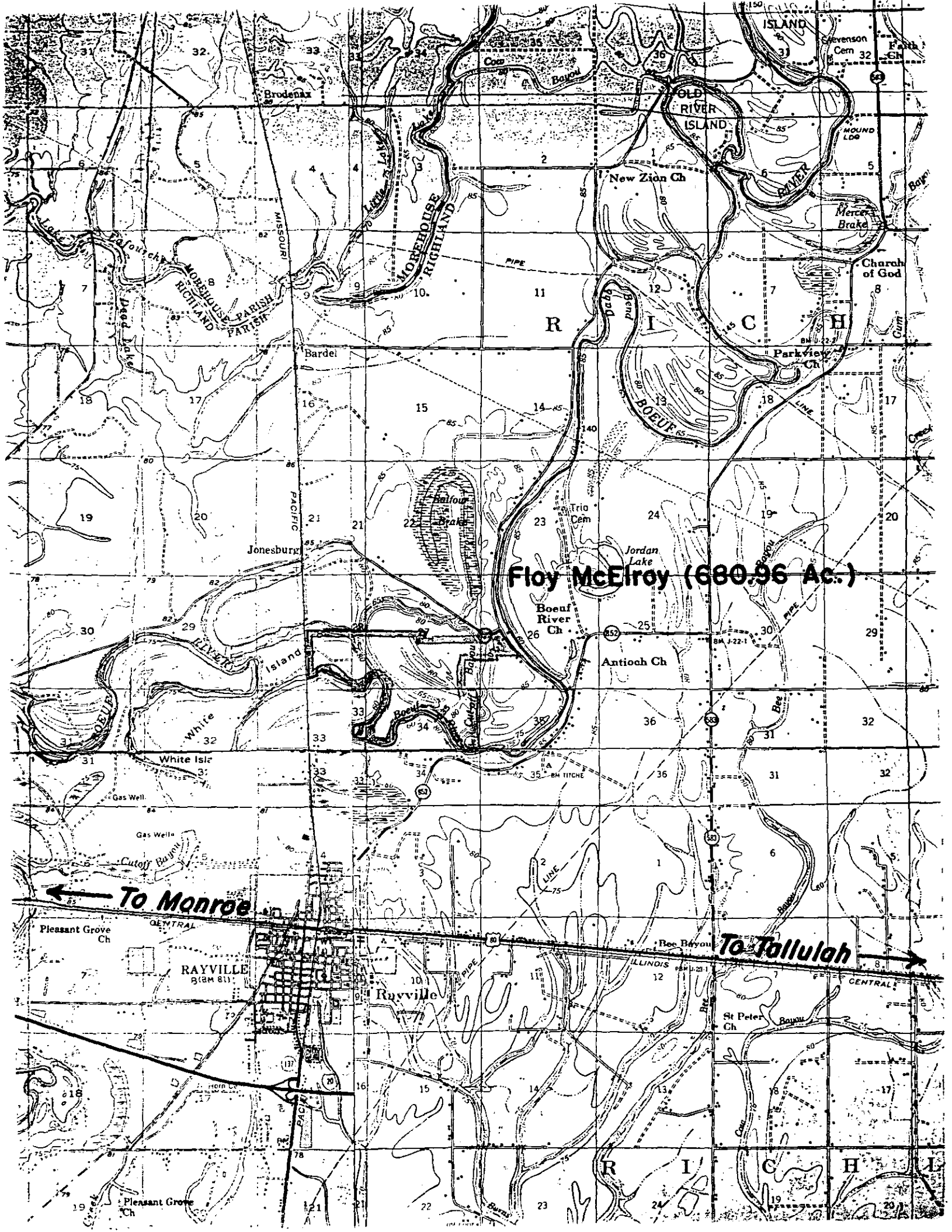
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Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission



FLOY McElroy (680.96 Ac.)

To Monroe

To Tallulah

#8

#8

1990 TURKEY HARVEST BY DISTRICTS

DISTRICT I

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
Caddo	0	0	0
Bossier	3	3 (100%)	0
Webster	0	0	0
DeSoto	0	0	0
Red River	0	0	0
Bienville	15	10 (66%)	5 (34%)
Claiborne	22	12 (54%)	10 (46%)
TOTAL	40	25 (62%)	15 (38%)

DISTRICT II

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
Lincoln	1	1 (100%)	0
Jackson	4	3 (75%)	1 (25%)
Ouachita	5	5 (100%)	0
East Carroll	33	26 (79%)	7 (21%)
Richland	0	0	0
TOTAL	43	35 (81%)	8 (19%)

DISTRICT III

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
Grant	16	12 (75%)	4 (25%)
Natchitoches	34	21 (62%)	13 (38%)
Rapides	55	36 (65%)	19 (35%)
Sabine	9	8 (89%)	1 (11%)
Vernon	72	57 (79%)	15 (21%)
Winn	2	2 (100%)	0
TOTAL	188	136 (72%)	52 (28%)

DISTRICT IV

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
Madison	25	20 (80%)	5 (20%)
Tensas	44	34 (77%)	10 (23%)
Concordia	1	1 (100%)	0
Cathoula	3	3 (100%)	0
LaSalle	4	1 (25%)	3 (75%)
Caldwell	21	19 (90%)	2 (10%)
Franklin	1	1 (100%)	0
TOTAL	99	79 (80%)	20 (20%)

DISTRICT V

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
Beauregard	12	7 (58%)	5 (42%)
Calcasieu	1	1 (100%)	0
Allen	3	3 (100%)	0
Evangeline	1	0	1 (100%)
Jeff Davis	0	0	0
TOTAL	17	11 (65%)	6 (35%)

DISTRICT VI

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
St. Landry	30	20 (67%)	10 (33%)
Point Coupee	37	34 (92%)	3 (8%)
West Baton Rouge	89	79 (89%)	10 (11%)
Iberville	45	42 (93%)	3 (7%)
St. Martin	12	9 (75%)	3 (25%)
Ascension	1	1 (100%)	0
Avoyelles	14	10 (71%)	4 (29%)
TOTAL	228	195 (85%)	33 (15%)

DISTRICT VII

<u>PARISH</u>	<u>TOTAL HARVEST</u>	<u>ADULTS (%)</u>	<u>JUVENILE (%)</u>
West Feliciana	231	202 (87%)	29 (13%)
East Feliciana	86	76 (88%)	10 (12%)
East Baton Rouge	32	28 (87%)	4 (13%)
St. Helena	158	124 (78%)	34 (22%)
Livingston	165	111 (67%)	54 (33%)
St. Tammy	25	22 (88%)	3 (12%)
Washington	134	99 (74%)	35 (26%)
Tangipahoa	74	56 (76%)	18 (24%)
TOTAL	905	718 (79%)	187 (21%)

#8

TOTALS

1990 TURKEY HARVEST BY DISTRICTS

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RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

1990-91 FUR HARVEST SEASON

- WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and
- WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase the importance in our state; and
- WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and
- WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment of otter and bobcat furs will require placement of a possession tag by trappers, buyers, or dealers to insure state of origin; and
- WHEREAS, The zonation concept has continued to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season within the State of Louisiana. The Notice of Intent attached to and made part of this Resolution is hereby approved.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

July 6, 1990

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The fur industry of Louisiana is the result of a major wildlife resource and provides supplemental income for many of the citizens of our state: and as this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance; annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with sound wildlife management principles.

The creation of a north and south trapping zone continues to allow for the most efficient harvest of prime furbearers in these two diverse habitat types within the state. Therefore, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1990 through February 28, 1991. After carefully considering the market situation for some upland species, especially the raccoon, the Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1990 through February 15, 1991, with the addition of an experimental season in the north zone from February 16, 1991 through March 15, 1991, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps) or their equivalent. The Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season in any portion of the state as biologically justifiable.

Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority for otter and bobcat furs continue to require attachment of an export tag on each of these species prior to out-of-state shipment.

The regulations governing the annual statewide trapping program adopted for the 1990-91 trapping season may be viewed at Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, phone: (504) 765-2811.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed rule to Johnnie Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:260.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

#10

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

1990-91 ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS AND SEASON

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish an alligator season; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the emergency regulations for administering all aspects of the 1990 alligator season which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

July 6, 1990

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

ALLIGATOR SEASON REGULATIONS

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act, R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set the alligator season, and R.S. 56:260, and action by the Commission on July 6, 1990, the alligator season is hereby established in accordance with the following regulations:

A. Purpose.

These regulations are to govern the taking, possession, selling, raising and propagation of alligators statewide, both in the wild and in captivity. They are enacted to prevent depletion or waste, while enhancing utilization of this renewable resource. These regulations are based upon scientific study and population monitoring and are consistent with federal requirements to qualify alligators and alligator parts from Louisiana for international export under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Alligators in Louisiana are not endangered but their similarity in appearance to endangered crocodilian species requires controls on commerce to minimize illegal trafficking of these species and to regulate and maintain the wild population of alligators. These regulations provide rules to enhance alligator farming operations; establish the methods of alligator harvest; establish minimum facility requirements for alligator farming; regulate commerce in alligators, eggs and parts; streamline necessary reporting requirements; and, establish a regulated nuisance alligator control program.

B. Definitions.

The following words and phrases for purposes of these regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, unless the context wherein the particular word or phrase is used clearly indicates a different meaning:

1. Alligator - American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis).

2. Alligator Egg Collection Permit - A permit issued by the Department allowing for the collection of alligator eggs on designated properties described as part of the permit. The permit will be signed by the Secretary or his designee, the permittee and the landowner/land manager.

3. Alligator Farm - An enclosed area, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications and requirements set by the Department, where alligators are bred, propagated, or raised as a commercial enterprise under controlled conditions.

4. Alligator Farmer - A properly licensed person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the Department. An alligator farmer must possess a valid nongame quadruped breeder's license.

5. Alligator Hunter - A properly licensed resident or nonresident person who takes wild alligators.

6. Alligator Part - Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except hides tagged pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations including the laws and regulations of the United States Government, the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

7. Alligator Parts Dealer - Any properly licensed person who deals in alligator parts and who:

(a) Buys from an alligator hunter, another parts dealer, or an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or

(b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or

(c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail.

8. Alligator Parts Retailer - Any properly licensed person selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption.

9. Alligator Parts Tag - An official tag issued by the Department that is attached to all unprocessed alligator parts upon transfer by an alligator hunter, an alligator parts dealer, or alligator farmer.

10. Alligator Shipping Label - A serially numbered label issued by the Department required on each container of alligators or alligator eggs being shipped or transported out of the state.

11. Bona Fide Resident (1) - Any person who has resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the twelve months

immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated with all of the following, as applicable:

(a) If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.

(b) If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a Louisiana driver's license.

(c) If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a Louisiana registration for that vehicle.

(d) If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.

(2) As to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under and subject to the laws of Louisiana, and as to which the principal place of business and more than fifty percent of the officers, partners, or employees are domiciled in Louisiana.

12. Closed Season - That period of time of a calendar year not specifically included in the open season.

13. Commission - The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

14. Common Carrier - Any agency or person transporting passengers or property of any description for hire.

15. Confiscation - The exercise of a right under the police power wherein property is seized and held pending court order if the seized material is nonperishable, or disposed of without judicial intervention if perishable.

16. Consumer - Restaurants and other places where alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life is prepared for human consumption; or any person using alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life for bait or personal consumption.

17. Department - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18. Designated Collection Agent - Anyone who is permitted by the Department to assist an alligator egg collection permittee during alligator egg collection.

19. Fur Buyer - Anyone who buys raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, fur buyers, or fur dealers and who sells to another fur buyer or fur dealer within the confines of the state or to a nonresident fur dealer licensed by the State of Louisiana in interstate commerce, or who acts as an agent of another fur buyer or fur dealer in this state in such purchase or sale. Fur buyers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur buyers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur buyers.

20. Fur Dealer - Anyone who deals in raw furs and skins and who:

(a) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, or alligator farmer, either directly or indirectly, and ships or exports from this state, either directly or indirectly, the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(b) Buys from a fur buyer or other fur dealer and exports from this state the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(c) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or other dealer and sells such raw furs and skins for manufacturing into a finished product in this state; or

(d) Manufactures such furs and skins into a finished product in this state, buying directly from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer; or

(e) Transports raw furs or skins into this state for the purpose of sale within the state. Fur dealers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur dealers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur dealers.

21. Hatchling - A young of the year alligator which is less than twenty three (23) inches in length.

22. Hide - (See "Pelt").

23. Hook - Any curved or bent device attached to a line or pole for the purpose of taking alligators.

24. Hunt - In different tenses, attempting to take.

25. Incubator - An apparatus designed and used for the primary purpose of incubating alligator eggs.

26. Land Manager - Any authorized person who represents the landowner.
27. Landowner - Any person who owns land which the Department has designated as alligator habitat.
28. Licensee - Any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the Department.
29. Nongame Quadruped - Alligators, beavers, bobcats, coyotes, gray foxes, minks, muskrats, nutrias, opossums, otters, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and other wild quadrupeds valuable for their furs or skins.
30. Nongame Quadruped Breeder - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting and selling nongame quadrupeds on alligator or fur farms.
31. Nongame Quadruped Exhibitor - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting nongame quadrupeds.
32. Nonresident - Any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(12).
33. Nuisance Alligator - A specific (particular) alligator that poses a threat to human life or property.
34. Nuisance Alligator Hunter - A licensed alligator hunter who is contracted or otherwise selected by the Department to remove designated nuisance alligators.
35. Open Season - That period of time set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, during which wild alligators or their eggs may be lawfully taken.
36. Out Of State Shipping Tag - An official, serially numbered tag, yellow in color, issued by the Department required on each shipment of alligator hides shipped out of state.
37. Part - For purposes of this section, a part is a division of a subsection.
38. Pelt - The skin or hide of a quadruped.
39. Pelting - Removing the skin and/or fur of a quadruped in such a manner as to render it marketable.
40. Person - Includes any individual person, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity recognized by law.

41. Pole Hunting - The act of taking an alligator from a den with a pole or snagging device of any type and includes using such devices to induce an alligator to move from a den prior to taking.

42. Possess - In its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining, or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee, or custodian for another.

43. Processed Alligator Part - Any part (and its resulting products) that has been removed from a legally taken alligator, treated to prevent decomposition, and packaged; provided that the meat is not processed until packaged and marked with required labeling as described in Subsection L of these regulations.

44. Propagation - The holding of live alligators for production of offspring.

45. Raising - The production of alligators under controlled environmental conditions or in outside facilities.

46. Rearing - (See "Raising").

47. Resident - (See "Bona Fide Resident").

48. Secretary - The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

49. Skin - (See "Pelt").

50. Take - In its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding, or killing by any means or device.

51. Transport - In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

52. Wildlife - All species of wild vertebrates.

53. Wildlife Management Area - Any area set aside, maintained, and supervised by the Department for the purpose of managing and harvesting wild birds, wild quadrupeds, fish and other aquatic life under controlled conditions to afford maximum public hunting and fishing opportunity.

54. Wildlife Refuge - Any area set aside and designated by the Department as a refuge on which wild birds and animals are protected. Control of certain forms of wildlife may be conducted by the Department.

C. General Rules.

1. No person shall take, possess, purchase or sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligators parts, or goods manufactured from alligators, except as provided in these regulations and LA. R.S. Title 56.

2. Each alligator, alligator egg, or alligator part taken or possessed in violation of these regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

3. Hides of alligators harvested in Louisiana shall be tagged in accordance with provisions of these regulations and deviation from those requirements shall be a violation and subject hides to confiscation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Pole Hunting is prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. An alligator hunter must possess on his or her person one or more current alligator hide tags while taking alligators provided that only one licensed hunter needs to possess current hide tags among a group of licensed hunters who are physically present in the same location and are conducting a joint hunting operation. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

6. No person shall release any alligator from any taking device for any purpose without first dispatching and tagging the alligator. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Collection of alligator hatchlings from the wild is strictly prohibited. Taking or collection of any wild alligator illegally is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is shall constitute a Class 7A violation for each alligator taken as described in Title 56. All alligators taken in violation of this part shall be confiscated and in addition to all other penalties provided herein, all alligator licenses of any type held by the offender(s) shall be revoked for a period of three (3) calendar years and no alligators shall be raised or propagated on the offender's facilities for a period of three (3) calendar years.

8. The shipment of alligator eggs out of state is prohibited except where special scientific permits have been obtained in

advance from the Department and specify all such shipments. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. Transportation of alligator(s) into this state without prior written approval of the Department is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. It is unlawful to ship alligator eggs into the State of Louisiana unless they are to be used for Department sponsored scientific studies and these shipments shall have prior written Department approval. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

11. The shipment of live alligators or alligator eggs out of the United States is strictly prohibited unless they are used for Department sponsored scientific studies with an accompanying authorization signed by the Secretary. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. There is levied a severance tax of twenty-five cents on all skins or hides taken from any alligator, within the state, payable to the state through the Department by the alligator hunter or alligator farmer taking his own catch out of state, or by the dealer. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

D. Licenses, Permits and Fees.

1. The licenses and fees required for activities authorized by these regulations are as prescribed under provisions of Title 56, or as prescribed in these regulations, and are:

- (a) \$25 for a resident alligator hunter's license;
- (b) \$150 for a nonresident alligator hunter's license;
- (c) \$25 for a resident fur buyer's license;
- (d) \$100 for a nonresident fur buyer's license;
- (e) \$150 for a resident fur dealer's license (\$500 deposit required);
- (f) \$300 for a nonresident fur dealer's license (\$1,000 deposit required);
- (g) \$10 for a nongame quadruped exhibitor's license;
- (h) \$25 for a nongame quadruped breeder's license;
- (i) \$50 for a alligator parts dealer license;
- (j) \$5 for a alligator parts retailer license;
- (k) \$4 for each alligator hide tag;
- (l) \$4 for each whole alligator leaving the state as alligator shipping label fee;
- (m) \$0.25 severance tax for each alligator hide taken from within the state;
- (n) \$25 for a Designated Agent Collection Permit.

2. No person may take, attempt to take, or possess a wild alligator in this state during the open season for taking wild alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses an alligator hunter's license. An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators, their skins, or parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. No resident or nonresident fur buyer shall ship furs, alligators, alligator skins, alligator eggs, or alligator parts out of state. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Every resident fur dealer, alligator hunter, alligator parts dealer, alligator farmer, nonresident fur dealer, or nonresident alligator hunter shall not ship or take raw alligator skins, alligators, or alligator parts out of state without first complying with provision of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person may engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped exhibitor license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in title 56.

6. No person may engage in the business of raising, breeding, propagating, exhibiting and selling alligators alive or selling their parts, and killing and transporting them and selling their skins and carcasses unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped breeder license and complies with Subsections N and O of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person shall engage in the business of buying and selling alligator parts unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid alligator parts dealer license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall secure from the department an alligator parts retailer license prior to commencing business. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. No person shall remove and possess alligator eggs from wild nests unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame game quadruped breeder license or a valid Designated Collection Agent Permit and also has in his possession a

valid alligator egg collection permit. Egg collection permits will only be issued to those persons who demonstrate competency in egg collection and handling, have necessary equipment accessible and comply with all Department requirements as described in Subsection N of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. No person shall ship or transport alligators out of the state without first applying for and receiving an alligator shipping label which shall be affixed to each container of alligators and is properly completed and validated by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

11. Every alligator hunter or alligator farmer shipping or transporting his own catch of alligator skins out of state is liable for the severance tax thereon, and shall apply for an official out of state shipping tag to be attached to the shipment and shall pay the severance tax prior to shipment. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

12. Valid holders of alligator hunter license, nongame quadruped breeder license, fur dealers license and alligator parts dealer license must comply with federal licensing and permit requirements to engage in interstate and international commerce involving alligators, alligator hides and parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

E. Wild Harvest Methods.

1. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line, and other legal capture devices which may be used, only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. There are no size restrictions on wild alligators taken during the general open season. A Department issued permit is required to sell alligators or their skins which are less than four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Legal methods for taking alligators in the wild are as follows:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Long (including compound) bow and barbed arrow; and
- (c) Firearms.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Hooks and arrows may be used only when a line of at least 300-pound test is securely attached to the hook or head of the arrow in such a manner to prevent separation from the hook or head until the carcass is retrieved. The other end of the line must be attached to a stationary or floating object capable of maintaining the line above water when an alligator is attached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator hunters shall inspect their hooks and lines and remove captured alligators daily. Alligators shall not be cut loose from hooks and lines for the purpose of selecting larger alligators. All hooks and lines shall be removed when an alligator hunter's quota is reached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Baited hooks and lines may be set no more than 24 hours prior to the general open season and shall be removed no later than sunset of the last day of the open season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person possessing alligator hide tags issued for privately-owned land or water may take alligators on adjacent publicly-owned water unless the taking device is anchored to privately-owned land or the person is on privately-owned land when the taking occurs, provided that any alligator captured on a legal taking device that is anchored to privately-owned land or held by a person on privately-owned land may be dispatched from a floating craft on public water. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. A person possessing alligator hide tags for publicly-owned areas may take alligators by legal means from a floating craft on public water for which the tags are issued.

F. Alligator Hide Tag Procurement and Tagging Requirements.

1. Alligator hide tags may be obtained as follows and only to properly licensed alligator hunters and nongame quadruped breeders:

2. Landowners, Land Managers and Hunters - upon application to the Department on forms provided for tag issuance. Applications for alligator tag allotments will be taken annually beginning August 1 and ending 10 days after the season opens.

(a) Maximum tag issuance to individual landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall be determined solely by

the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

(b) Land managers and hunters must present a notarized document from the landowner verifying their selection to represent that landowner and the total acreage represented to obtain hide tags.

(c) Payment for all alligator tags shall be received by the Department prior to issuance. Numbered alligator hide tags shall only be issued in the name of the license holder and are nontransferable. A refund will be issued for all unused alligator tags which are returned within the required time frame designated in these regulations.

Violation of parts 1 and 2 of this Subsection are class 2 violations as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator farmers - upon request to the Department at any time at least two weeks prior to scheduled harvesting, subject to verification of available stock by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. If an alligator hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which hide tags were issued, all unused hide tags and alligators in possession shall be confiscated and the violator's alligator hunting license shall be revoked. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunting licenses immediately prior to the annual open season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Alligator farmers shall adhere to the annual skinning requirements when skinning farm raised alligators. Alligators not skinned in compliance with the established specific requirements shall be considered illegal and shall be confiscated by the Department.

6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an

alligator hunter. The tag shall be attached in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. Alligator farmers may wait until farm raised alligators are skinned prior to tagging but only if the alligator has not left the farm premises. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

G. Open Season, Open Areas, and Bag Limits.

1. Open seasons are as follows:

(a) The general open season for taking alligators in the wild shall run for a 30 day period beginning on September 1, 1990 through September 30, 1990. The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

(b) Nuisance control hunters may take nuisance alligators at any time as prescribed by the Department.

(c) Farm raised alligators may be taken at any time following the issuance of hide tags by the Department.

(d) The open season for collection of alligator eggs from the wild shall be from May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. The open areas are as follows:

(a) For the general open season, those areas designated by the technical staff of the Department as alligator habitat and which can sustain an alligator harvest.

(b) The Department may select public lakes and lands for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by Department personnel. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. Applications must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date. A public drawing will be held to select hunters. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake per season. The tag quota for each lake and hunter will be established by the technical staff of the Department. Alligator tags issued on public lakes and lands are nontransferable.

(c) Wild alligators in the remainder of the state may be taken only under provisions as prescribed by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. The daily and season bag limit is equal to the number of valid alligator hide tags that a licensed alligator hunter possesses. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Non resident alligator hunters may only take three (3) alligator during the open season. Violation of this part is a class 4 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Harvest rates will be calculated annually by Department personnel based on biological data. Alligator hide tag allotments will be established prior to issuance of alligator hunting licenses.

H. Possession.

1. No person shall possess alligators or alligator hides in Louisiana without valid official tags properly attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or hide shall result in confiscation of both the alligator or hide and tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator farmers may request hide tags or shipping labels from the Department to be used on farm-raised alligators that have died unexpectedly and may hold those alligators in freezers until receipt of the requested hide tags or shipping labels. These alligators may be held in freezers for a maximum of 60 days prior to disposal. All alligators 24 inches and greater in length that die unexpectedly must be properly skinned and tagged with an alligator hide tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. No person other than a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur buyer or licensed fur dealer may possess a tagged or labeled alligator, a tagged raw or salted hide of an alligator at any time, provided that legally documented tagged or labeled alligators or tagged hides may be possessed without license while in transit, or during processing for tanning or taxidermy. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess live alligators at any time other than by a permit issued by the Department upon request for use in displays and educational purposes, and by holders of valid Department issued permits for scientific purposes. Live, farm raised alligators and

their alligator hide tags may be held for processing by a properly licensed alligator skinning facility without a license or permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess alligator eggs at any time other than Department permitted Designated Collection Agents assisting a licensed and permitted alligator farmer during wild egg collection, or a holder of a valid Department issued permit for scientific purposes. Any alligators hatched from scientific permits issued by the Department will be returned to the wild under Departmental supervision following completion of the research project. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

I. Importation, Exportation, Purchase, and Sale.

1. Alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators, may be brought into the state only if the alligators, alligator hides or parts of alligators were lawfully taken in another state or country and the person, firm or corporation bringing the alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or alligator parts into the state has obtained written permission from the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. All alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators possessed, sold, purchased, exported, imported, or brought into the state from another state shall be accompanied by documented evidence that they were lawfully taken. Documented evidence shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(a) A resource user license or permit number allowing the taking of alligators and tags or other identification required by the state or country of origin shall be firmly attached to the alligator, alligator hide, or parts of alligators; and

(b) A tag or label is affixed to the outside of any package or container of alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts that specifies type of contents, indicates quantity contained, and lists applicable license or permit numbers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Purchases of alligators, alligator hides and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may not purchase alligators or alligator hides from anyone.

(b) A licensed fur buyer may purchase alligator hides from an Louisiana licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur dealer, or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(c) A licensed fur dealer may purchase alligator hides from a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, fur buyer or another fur dealer.

(d) A licensed alligator farmer may purchase live alligators only from another licensed alligator farmer or the Department.

(e) An alligator farmer may purchase alligator eggs only from another alligator farmer, a landowner/land manager (with an approved Department alligator egg collection permit), or the Department.

(f) A licensed alligator parts dealer may purchase alligator parts from an licensed alligator hunter, alligator farmer, another alligator parts dealer, or the Department.

(g) A licensed parts retailer may purchase canned alligator parts or alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer.

(h) A restaurant may purchase alligator meat to sell prepared for human consumption with a alligator parts retailer license.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Sales of alligators and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may sell alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts taken by the licensee during the general open season to anyone who may legally purchase.

(b) A licensed alligator farmer may sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligator hides, or alligator parts to anyone who may legally purchase. The sale of alligator eggs or live alligators shall only occur following the

issuance of an Alligator Transfer Authorization Permit issued by the Department. Application for the permit shall be made at least 2 weeks prior to the transfer.

(c) A licensed fur buyer may sell alligator hides to a fur dealer or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(d) A licensed fur dealer may sell alligator hides to anyone who may legally purchase.

(e) A licensed alligator parts dealer may sell alligator parts to anyone.

(f) A licensed alligator parts retailer may sell canned alligator parts, processed alligator parts, or alligator meat to anyone.

(g) A restaurant possessing an alligator parts retailer license may sell alligator meat prepared for human consumption to anyone.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Legally tagged and documented alligators, alligator hides, and parts of alligators taken in Louisiana may be shipped out of state or exported by alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur dealers and alligator parts dealers subject to Subsection K of these regulations (relating to Report Requirements) provided that no live alligators or eggs originating in Louisiana may be exported outside of the United States without specific Department authorization and the concurrence of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to be used only for scientific purposes. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. A special permit is required of anyone who sells alligator eggs, live alligators under four (4) feet in length, or skins of alligators under four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

J. Nuisance Alligator Control.

1. Nuisance alligator hunters will be selected by the Department and may be based upon recommendations received from the local governing body. Applicants with prior alligator hunting violations will be rejected.

2. Nuisance alligator hunters shall purchase a valid alligator hunter license and are bound by all laws, rules and regulations governing alligator hunting with the exception

that nuisance alligators may be taken at anytime. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Nuisance alligator complaints will be verified by Department personnel prior to being approved for removal. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Tags will be issued to nuisance alligator hunters for immediate attachment to alligators when taken. Nuisance alligator hunters will make every attempt possible to catch nuisance alligators and relocate to natural habitat selected by the Department. It is unlawful for any nuisance alligator captured alive to be sold or otherwise disposed of on an alligator farm. Alligators and alligator parts taken and tagged under these provisions may be retained and sold by the nuisance alligator hunter as any other legally taken wild alligator or alligator part. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Nuisance alligator hunters may take alligators by any means prescribed by the Department. Failure to comply with Departmental instructions may result in immediate termination of the individual's participation in the nuisance alligator program. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

K. Report Requirements.

1. Report forms provided by the Department must be completed and filed with the Department by all persons who have been issued an alligator hunter's license, fur buyer's license, fur dealer's license, nongame quadruped exhibitor's license, nongame quadruped breeder's license, alligator parts dealer's license, or alligator egg collection permit in accordance with this Subsection. Reports shall include but not be limited to the information specified in this Subsection.

2. Alligator hunters receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Lost or stolen tags

will not be replaced.

(c) All unused tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Violation of this requirement shall result in no license or alligator tags being issued to the violator for a period of one year.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department.

(e) Each licensed alligator hunter selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall provide that person with a bill of sale for each transaction.

(f) All records of transactions involving alligator parts of alligator hunters shall be available for inspection by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56...

3. A nuisance alligator hunter shall comply with the same report requirements as an alligator hunter and complete any other reports required by the Department. Violation of this requirement shall result in immediate termination of nuisance alligator hunter status. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator farmers receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(c) All unused hide tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the

year that issued tags are valid. Violation of this requirement shall result in the revocation of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid of any alligator hide not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(e) Each alligator farmer shall report annually, no later than December 31, on an official form provided by the Department, all activities that have occurred on the farm for the past year including but not limited to the number of live alligators as of that date, separated by sizes, the number of eggs collected and hatched, the purchase and sale of alligators for the past year and the numbers of alligators lost. Failure to complete this form properly and completely will result in non renewal of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

(f) Each licensed alligator farmer selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall furnish that person with a bill of sale for each transaction. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation.

5. Fur buyers and fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must keep within the state a complete record on forms provided by the Department, all purchases and sales made of alligator hides as described in Title 56, and;

(a) Every buyer or dealer having undressed alligator hides in his possession after the close of each open season shall file with the Department within 60 days or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report, on forms provided by the Department, a detailed description of alligator hides then owned or held in possession as owner or agent.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. Fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must maintain complete records of alligator hides purchased inside and outside the state as described in Title 56. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the required severance tax subjects any dealer to the full penalties provided and the immediate revocation of his license

by the Department. No license shall be issued to a dealer who has not paid the tax for the preceding year. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator parts dealers purchasing alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts purchase form for each purchase. Alligator parts dealers selling alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the Department and shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the open season and at 60-day intervals until final disposition of all wild parts. These forms shall be submitted annually for all farm raised alligator parts, and;

(a) Alligator parts dealers shall furnish a bill of sale to anyone purchasing alligator parts.

(b) The records of transactions involving alligator parts shall be available for inspection by the Department and shall be maintained complete for a period of one year following any transaction.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Any alligator parts retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase and these records shall be available for inspection by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

L. Alligator Meat.

1. Alligator meat from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to state and federal laws, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator meat processed in the State of Louisiana and sold for human consumption must be processed in a licensed facility approved by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the facility must display a valid permit issued by that agency. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator carcasses being shipped whole shall be tagged with an alligator parts tag properly identifying the carcasses and shall remain on the carcasses until the processing makes identification impossible. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator hunters and alligator farmers involved in alligator parts transactions with individual consumers shall properly tag all alligator parts and the parts tag shall remain attached until final disposition. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. All alligator meat processed for sale must be packaged in suitable containers which identifies the contents as alligator meat, is marked with a valid Department license number and comply with all state and federal packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. All alligator meat shipped into the state and being offered for sale must meet all of Louisiana's health, processing, packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

M. Disposal of Alligators by the Department.

1. The Department may sell alligators, alligator eggs or parts of alligators taken for any purpose deemed necessary for proper management of the species pursuant to Title 56.

2. The Department may dispose of alligators, alligator eggs, or parts of alligators by donation or lending to a scientific institution or other institutions that the Department deems have need for such alligators, however these institutions cannot sell or barter these animals and must be returned to the Department at the conclusion of the program or need.

3. Confiscated alligator hides and parts may be destroyed by the Department pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

4. Confiscated live alligator eggs or alligators will be cared for by the Department and released in suitable alligator habitat when and where they can survive. All costs incurred by the Department in the maintenance of these eggs and animals in captivity shall be the responsibility of the offender and restitution shall be made to the Department.

N. Alligator Egg Collection.

1. Alligator egg collection permits are a three party permit between the Department, the permittee and a landowner/manager who owns or leases alligator nesting habitat determined by Department biologists to be capable of producing alligator eggs. The numbers of eggs to be collected will be based upon biological management criteria and will determined annually by technical staff of the Department. The Department only estimates the numbers of eggs available and assumes no

responsibility or offers no guarantee that those numbers of eggs will be available. Alligator egg collection permits may be obtained upon application to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The annual deadline for submitting applications for Alligator Egg Collection Permits is June 1. This program is experimental and may be changed at any time based on biological data to insure for proper management of the wild alligator population.

2. Alligator egg collection permits may be issued by the Department provided:

(a) Permittee is a properly licensed alligator farmer and meets all applicable requirements in Subsection O of these regulations (Alligator Farm Facility Requirements).

(b) All land documentation required on the alligator egg collection permit has been presented to the Department.

(c) Department biologists determine the properties described on the permit application are indeed alligator nesting habitat and can sustain alligator egg collections.

(d) Applicant has obtained all legal and necessary signatures from landowners/land managers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. It is unlawful for an alligator farmer or a permitted Designated Collection Agent to collect eggs from properties other than those described in the alligator egg collection permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. An alligator farmer or designated collection agent in the act of collecting or possessing alligator eggs must possess on his or her person a copy of the fully executed alligator egg collection permit. The designated collection agent must also possess a valid designated collection agent permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Collection of wild alligator eggs can only be made after contacting the appropriate Department Enforcement Agent no less than 24 hours prior to each collection trip. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Alligator eggs can only be collected from the wild from official sunrise to official sunset and only during the

established alligator egg collection season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator eggs collected from the wild must be collected and transported in a manner which insures the greatest survival of viable eggs as determined by Department biologists. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each clutch of alligator eggs collected should be maintained as a separate entity from time of collection through incubation and hatching.

9. Failure to hatch at least 70% of viable alligator eggs collected from the wild shall be considered a waste of Louisiana's natural resources. All alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued should an alligator farmer be found to waste the resources of this state for two consecutive years.

10. Alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued to alligator farmers who fail to average a minimum hatchling survival rate of 85% for two consecutive years.

11. The alligator egg collection permittee and the landowner are responsible for returning the percentage of live alligators to the wild described on the alligator egg collection permit. This requirement is nontransferable. Minimum return rates will be based upon the state average hatching success which is 78%. Each alligator shall be returned to the original egg collection area. Each alligator shall be a minimum of 48" in size and the returned sex ratio should contain at least 50% females. The Department shall be responsible for supervising the required return of these alligators. Releases back to the wild will only occur between April 15 and September 15 of each calendar year. Should an alligator egg collection permittee be unable to release the required number of alligators to the wild from his own stock, he shall be required to purchase additional alligators from another farmer to meet compliance with the alligator egg collection permit and these regulations, as supervised by the Department. Department sanctioned participants in ongoing studies involving survivability and return rates are exempt from these requirements during the period of the study. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. The percentage of 48" alligators to be returned to the wild shall be selected from the healthiest of all alligators of that year class. Abnormal or deformed alligators are not acceptable for release into the wild. It is unlawful for

alligators that are to be returned to the wild to be transported out of state. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

O. Alligator Farm Facility Requirements.

1. All first time applicants for a nongame quadruped breeder's or exhibitor's license who will house alligators on their premises shall show compliance of the following minimum facilities as applicable to their particular operation during a required facility examination by Department personnel prior to license issuance:

(a) Secured premises with adequate barriers to prevent escape of enclosed alligators and entry by alligators from outside the farm and to deter theft of alligators.

(b) Source of clean, fresh water which shall be adequate to ensure for proper care of all alligator stock and facilities. This requirement shall be determined by Department personnel.

(c) Provisions for both dry area and pooled water within the secured area adequate for the numbers of alligators to be housed on the premises. This requirement will be determined by Department personnel.

(d) Provision for winter protection, either through adequate denning space or an enclosed, controlled-temperature environment of a design acceptable to the Department.

(e) All controlled-temperature alligator sheds shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each shed shall be capable of maintaining a minimum constant temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit. Minimum space requirements for alligators housed in the shed shall be:

(i) One square foot of space shall be required for each alligator less than 24" in length.

(ii) Three square feet of space shall be required for each alligator measuring 25" to 48" in length.

(iii) One additional square foot of space shall be required for each additional 6 inches of alligator length for alligators above four feet in length.

(f) All alligator egg incubators shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each incubator shall maintain a water and air temperature of 85 to 91 degrees fahrenheit during the egg incubation.

(g) Applicant must be in compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to zoning, construction, health and environmental standards and must possess any and all applicable permits and licenses.

(h) All alligator facilities should be constructed in an suitable location so as to minimize contact with people.

2. Following initial issuance of applicable license, all applicable facility requirements shall be adhered to and Department personnel have the authority to inspect any and all of the facilities at any time. Failure to adhere to the requirements shall be a violation of these rules and violators will be given 60 days to correct the problem. Failure to comply shall result in confiscation of all animals and/or closure of all facilities. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. All alligator farmers possessing alligator eggs outside an alligator nest should house these eggs in identifiable original clutch groups in an incubator providing constant temperature and humidity conditions. All incubators used to incubate alligator eggs shall be of a design to allow for maximum temperature control and conform to Department requirements to allow for the maximum hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. All alligator farmers possessing alligator hatchlings shall house hatchlings in controlled environmental chambers capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit year round and containing dry and wet areas of sufficient surface area to permit all alligators to completely submerge in water and completely exit from water and orient in any direction, without touching the sides of the chambers. All alligators 48" or less in length shall be housed in environmental chambers unless a special permit is issued by the Department to move them to outside growth areas. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator farmers shall house alligators of different lengths into at least three groups, providing separation for all alligators less than two feet in length, two to four feet in length, and over four feet in length. Land and water areas sufficient for complete submersion or complete exit from water shall be provided for each group of alligators held. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Nesting activity of captive alligators shall be recorded with weekly accounts of nests constructed, eggs collected, number of viable eggs set and hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Complete written records shall be maintained by the license holder and shall be submitted to the Department on a standardized annual report form provided by the Department, which shall be provided as part of the annual license renewal. These reports must be submitted no later than December 31 of each year. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

8. All facilities, alligator stock, and records are subject to examination by Department personnel prior to permitting and thereafter during farm operation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

9. It shall be unlawful for alligator eggs or alligators to be moved from a licensed premises without approval of the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

P. Exceptions.

1. These regulations do not require licenses, labels, or permits for consumers who purchase or possess goods processed or manufactured from alligators which have been legally taken or raised, provided that such goods are used by the consumer and are not sold or bartered in conjunction with a wholesale or retail business activity.

2. The Department or an authorized representative of the Department may take by any means and possess alligators or parts of alligators while in the performance of official duties.

3. These regulations shall not prohibit a person from killing an alligator in immediate defense of his or her life or the lives of others. Alligators killed under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. These regulations do not require a state license or permit of persons who deal in finished alligator leather products.

Q. Penalty for Violation.

1. In order to facilitate greater control over alligator trafficking, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries finds that public welfare imperatively requires emergency action when the provisions of these regulations are

violated.

2. If citations are issued for a violation of these regulations, all licenses and tags belonging to or in the possession of the cited party shall be suspended until such time as the said party appears before Department officials for purposes of reviewing the citations issued. The Secretary, after reviewing the proceedings may reinstate or revoke the suspension. The alleged violator may lose all rights and privileges to participate in this program if found guilty by criminal or civil process.

3. The Department shall have the authority to confiscate any alligators or alligator eggs from any person or facility that is not caring for the alligators or alligator eggs in a humane manner. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs consists but is not limited to conditions which could have an adverse effect upon the alligators or alligator eggs such as sanitary conditions, temperature control, feeding, or overcrowding. The confiscated alligators and alligator eggs shall be disposed of as the Department deems necessary. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. In addition to all penalties set forth herein, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution under provisions of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Titles 14 and 56 and under Federal law.

5. In addition to all other penalties provided by these rules and by statute, violation of any part of these regulations may result in the suspension and/or revocation of any or all alligator licenses held by the violator and, as further penalty, for serious, repeat, or multiple violations, the Department shall have the right to deny a violator any and all licenses relating to alligators for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

This is to certify that the above and foregoing is a true copy of the excerpt of the meeting of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission held in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on July 6, 1990.

Warren Pol
Chairman

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish alligator regulations; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The alligator farming program is regulated by the Department through regulations enacted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish alligator regulations for administering all aspects of the alligator program which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The alligator industry of Louisiana represents a renewable resource, valuable to the economy providing income to approximately 110 alligator farmers and in excess of 1,500 alligator hunters. The alligator farming program and the annual harvest of surplus wild and nuisance alligators is in keeping with wise wildlife management techniques based upon scientific research conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

The Department does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the following alligator regulations. The regulations governing the alligator harvest program and the alligator farming program may be viewed at Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, phone: (504) 765-2811.

PART V. WILD QUADRUPEDS AND WILD BIRDS

Chapter 7. Alligators

#701. Alligator Regulations

A. Purpose.

These regulations are to govern the taking, possession, selling, raising and propagation of alligators statewide, both in the wild and in captivity. They are enacted to prevent depletion or waste, while enhancing utilization of this renewable resource. These regulations are based upon scientific study and population monitoring and are consistent with federal requirements to qualify alligators and alligator parts from Louisiana for international export under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Alligators in Louisiana are not endangered but their similarity in appearance to endangered crocodilian species requires controls on commerce to minimize illegal trafficking of these species and to regulate and maintain the wild population of alligators. These regulations provide rules to enhance alligator farming operations; establish the methods of alligator harvest; establish minimum facility requirements for alligator farming; regulate commerce in alligators, eggs and parts; streamline necessary reporting requirements; and, establish a regulated nuisance alligator control program.

B. Definitions.

The following words and phrases for purposes of these regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, unless the context wherein the particular word or phrase is used clearly indicates a different meaning:

1. Alligator - American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis).
2. Alligator Egg Collection Permit - A permit issued by the Department allowing for the collection of alligator eggs on designated properties described as part of the permit. The permit will be signed by the Secretary or his designee, the permittee and the landowner/land manager.
3. Alligator Farm - An enclosed area, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications and requirements set by the Department, where alligators are bred, propagated, or raised as a commercial enterprise under controlled conditions.
4. Alligator Farmer - A properly licensed person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the Department. An alligator farmer must possess a valid nongame quadruped breeder's license.
5. Alligator Hunter - A properly licensed resident or nonresident person who takes wild alligators.
6. Alligator Part - Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except hides tagged pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations including the laws and regulations of the United States Government, the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.
7. Alligator Parts Dealer - Any properly licensed person who deals in alligator parts and who:
 - (a) Buys from an alligator hunter, another parts dealer, or an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or
 - (b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or
 - (c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail.
8. Alligator Parts Retailer - Any properly licensed person selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption.
9. Alligator Parts Tag - An official tag issued by the Department that is attached to all unprocessed alligator parts

upon transfer by an alligator hunter, an alligator parts dealer, or alligator farmer.

10. Alligator Shipping Label - A serially numbered label issued by the Department required on each container of alligators or alligator eggs being shipped or transported out of the state.

11. Bona Fide Resident (1) - Any person who has resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the twelve months immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated with all of the following, as applicable:

(a) If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.

(b) If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a Louisiana driver's license.

(c) If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a Louisiana registration for that vehicle.

(d) If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.

(2) As to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under and subject to the laws of Louisiana, and as to which the principal place of business and more than fifty percent of the officers, partners, or employees are domiciled in Louisiana.

12. Closed Season - That period of time of a calendar year not specifically included in the open season.

13. Commission - The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

14. Common Carrier - Any agency or person transporting passengers or property of any description for hire.

15. Confiscation - The exercise of a right under the police power wherein property is seized and held pending court order if the seized material is nonperishable, or disposed of without judicial intervention if perishable.

16. Consumer - Restaurants and other places where alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life is prepared for human

consumption; or any person using alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life for bait or personal consumption.

17. Department - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18. Designated Collection Agent - Anyone who is permitted by the Department to assist an alligator egg collection permittee during alligator egg collection.

19. Fur Buyer - Anyone who buys raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, fur buyers, or fur dealers and who sells to another fur buyer or fur dealer within the confines of the state or to a nonresident fur dealer licensed by the State of Louisiana in interstate commerce, or who acts as an agent of another fur buyer or fur dealer in this state in such purchase or sale. Fur buyers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur buyers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur buyers.

20. Fur Dealer - Anyone who deals in raw furs and skins and who:

(a) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, or alligator farmer, either directly or indirectly, and ships or exports from this state, either directly or indirectly, the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(b) Buys from a fur buyer or other fur dealer and exports from this state the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(c) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or other dealer and sells such raw furs and skins for manufacturing into a finished product in this state; or

(d) Manufactures such furs and skins into a finished product in this state, buying directly from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer; or

(e) Transports raw furs or skins into this state for the purpose of sale within the state. Fur dealers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur dealers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur dealers.

21. Hatchling - A young of the year alligator which is less than twenty three (23) inches in length.

22. Hide - (See "Pelt").
23. Hook - Any curved or bent device attached to a line or pole for the purpose of taking alligators.
24. Hunt - In different tenses, attempting to take.
25. Incubator - An apparatus designed and used for the primary purpose of incubating alligator eggs.
26. Land Manager - Any authorized person who represents the landowner.
27. Landowner - Any person who owns land which the Department has designated as alligator habitat.
28. Licensee - Any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the Department.
29. Nongame Quadruped - Alligators, beavers, bobcats, coyotes, gray foxes, minks, muskrats, nutrias, opossums, otters, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and other wild quadrupeds valuable for their furs or skins.
30. Nongame Quadruped Breeder - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting and selling nongame quadrupeds on alligator or fur farms.
31. Nongame Quadruped Exhibitor - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting nongame quadrupeds.
32. Nonresident - Any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(12).
33. Nuisance Alligator - A specific (particular) alligator that poses a threat to human life or property.
34. Nuisance Alligator Hunter - A licensed alligator hunter who is contracted or otherwise selected by the Department to remove designated nuisance alligators.
35. Open Season - That period of time set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, during which wild alligators or their eggs may be lawfully taken.
36. Out Of State Shipping Tag - An official, serially numbered tag, yellow in color, issued by the Department required on each shipment of alligator hides shipped out of state.
37. Part - For purposes of this section, a part is a division

of a subsection.

38. Pelt - The skin or hide of a quadruped.

39. Pelting - Removing the skin and/or fur of a quadruped in such a manner as to render it marketable.

40. Person - Includes any individual person, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity recognized by law.

41. Pole Hunting - The act of taking an alligator from a den with a pole or snagging device of any type and includes using such devices to induce an alligator to move from a den prior to taking.

42. Possess - In its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining, or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee, or custodian for another.

43. Processed Alligator Part - Any part (and its resulting products) that has been removed from a legally taken alligator, treated to prevent decomposition, and packaged; provided that the meat is not processed until packaged and marked with required labeling as described in Subsection L of these regulations.

44. Propagation - The holding of live alligators for production of offspring.

45. Raising - The production of alligators under controlled environmental conditions or in outside facilities.

46. Rearing - (See "Raising").

47. Resident - (See "Bona Fide Resident").

48. Secretary - The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

49. Skin - (See "Pelt").

50. Take - In its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding, or killing by any means or device.

51. Transport - In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

52. Wildlife - All species of wild vertebrates.

53. Wildlife Management Area - Any area set aside, maintained, and supervised by the Department for the purpose of managing and harvesting wild birds, wild quadrupeds, fish and other aquatic life under controlled conditions to afford maximum public hunting and fishing opportunity..

54. Wildlife Refuge - Any area set aside and designated by the Department as a refuge on which wild birds and animals are protected. Control of certain forms of wildlife may be conducted by the Department.

C. General Rules.

1. No person shall take, possess, purchase or sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligators parts, or goods manufactured from alligators, except as provided in these regulations and LA. R.S. Title 56.

2. Each alligator, alligator egg, or alligator part taken or possessed in violation of these regulations shall constitute a separate offense.

3. Hides of alligators harvested in Louisiana shall be tagged in accordance with provisions of these regulations and deviation from those requirements shall be a violation and subject hides to confiscation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Pole Hunting is prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. An alligator hunter must possess on his or her person one or more current alligator hide tags while taking alligators provided that only one licensed hunter needs to possess current hide tags among a group of licensed hunters who are physically present in the same location and are conducting a joint hunting operation. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

6. No person shall release any alligator from any taking device for any purpose without first dispatching and tagging the alligator. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Collection of alligator hatchlings from the wild is strictly prohibited. Taking or collection of any wild alligator illegally is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is shall constitute a Class 7A violation for each alligator taken as described in Title 56. All alligators

taken in violation of this part shall be confiscated and in addition to all other penalties provided herein, all alligator licenses of any type held by the offender(s) shall be revoked for a period of three (3) calendar years and no alligators shall be raised or propagated on the offender's facilities for a period of three (3) calendar years.

8. The shipment of alligator eggs out of state is prohibited except where special scientific permits have been obtained in advance from the Department and specify all such shipments. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. Transportation of alligator(s) into this state without prior written approval of the Department is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. It is unlawful to ship alligator eggs into the State of Louisiana unless they are to be used for Department sponsored scientific studies and these shipments shall have prior written Department approval. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

11. The shipment of live alligators or alligator eggs out of the United States is strictly prohibited unless they are used for Department sponsored scientific studies with an accompanying authorization signed by the Secretary. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. There is levied a severance tax of twenty-five cents on all skins or hides taken from any alligator, within the state, payable to the state through the Department by the alligator hunter or alligator farmer taking his own catch out of state, or by the dealer. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

D. Licenses, Permits and Fees.

1. The licenses and fees required for activities authorized by these regulations are as prescribed under provisions of Title 56, or as prescribed in these regulations, and are:

- (a) \$25 for a resident alligator hunter's license;
- (b) \$150 for a nonresident alligator hunter's license;
- (c) \$25 for a resident fur buyer's license;
- (d) \$100 for a nonresident fur buyer's license;
- (e) \$150 for a resident fur dealer's license (\$500 deposit required);
- (f) \$300 for a nonresident fur dealer's license (\$1,000 deposit required);
- (g) \$10 for a nongame quadruped exhibitor's license;
- (h) \$25 for a nongame quadruped breeder's license;

- (i) \$50 for a alligator parts dealer license;
- (j) \$5 for a alligator parts retailer license;
- (k) \$4 for each alligator hide tag;
- (l) \$4 for each whole alligator leaving the state as alligator shipping label fee;
- (m) \$0.25 severance tax for each alligator hide taken from within the state;
- (n) \$25 for a Designated Agent Collection Permit.

2. No person may take, attempt to take, or possess a wild alligator in this state during the open season for taking wild alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses an alligator hunter's license. An alligator hunter must have in possession a valid alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators, their skins, or parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. No resident or nonresident fur buyer shall ship furs, alligators, alligator skins, alligator eggs, or alligator parts out of state. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Every resident fur dealer, alligator hunter, alligator parts dealer, alligator farmer, nonresident fur dealer, or nonresident alligator hunter shall not ship or take raw alligator skins, alligators, or alligator parts out of state without first complying with provision of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person may engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped exhibitor license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in title 56.

6. No person may engage in the business of raising, breeding, propagating, exhibiting and selling alligators alive or selling their parts, and killing and transporting them and selling their skins and carcasses unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped breeder license and complies with Subsections N and O of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person shall engage in the business of buying and selling alligator parts unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid alligator parts dealer license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared

alligator meat for human consumption shall secure from the department an alligator parts retailer license prior to commencing business. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. No person shall remove and possess alligator eggs from wild nests unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame game quadruped breeder license or a valid Designated Collection Agent Permit and also has in his possession a valid alligator egg collection permit. Egg collection permits will only be issued to those persons who demonstrate competency in egg collection and handling, have necessary equipment accessible and comply with all Department requirements as described in Subsection N of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. No person shall ship or transport alligators out of the state without first applying for and receiving an alligator shipping label which shall be affixed to each container of alligators and is properly completed and validated by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

11. Every alligator hunter or alligator farmer shipping or transporting his own catch of alligator skins out of state is liable for the severance tax thereon, and shall apply for an official out of state shipping tag to be attached to the shipment and shall pay the severance tax prior to shipment. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

12. Valid holders of alligator hunter license, nongame quadruped breeder license, fur dealers license and alligator parts dealer license must comply with federal licensing and permit requirements to engage in interstate and international commerce involving alligators, alligator hides and parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

E. Wild Harvest Methods.

1. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line, and other legal capture devices which may be used, only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. There are no size restrictions on wild alligators taken during the general open season. A Department issued permit is required to sell alligators or their skins which are less than four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a

class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Legal methods for taking alligators in the wild are as follows:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Long (including compound) bow and barbed arrow; and
- (c) Firearms.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Hooks and arrows may be used only when a line of at least 300-pound test is securely attached to the hook or head of the arrow in such a manner to prevent separation from the hook or head until the carcass is retrieved. The other end of the line must be attached to a stationary or floating object capable of maintaining the line above water when an alligator is attached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator hunters shall inspect their hooks and lines and remove captured alligators daily. Alligators shall not be cut loose from hooks and lines for the purpose of selecting larger alligators. All hooks and lines shall be removed when an alligator hunter's quota is reached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Baited hooks and lines may be set no more than 24 hours prior to the general open season and shall be removed no later than sunset of the last day of the open season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person possessing alligator hide tags issued for privately-owned land or water may take alligators on adjacent publicly-owned water unless the taking device is anchored to privately-owned land or the person is on privately-owned land when the taking occurs, provided that any alligator captured on a legal taking device that is anchored to privately-owned land or held by a person on privately-owned land may be dispatched from a floating craft on public water. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. A person possessing alligator hide tags for publicly-owned areas may take alligators by legal means from a floating craft on public water for which the tags are issued.

F. Alligator Hide Tag Procurement and Tagging Requirements.

1. Alligator hide tags may be obtained as follows and only to properly licensed alligator hunters and nongame quadruped breeders:

2. Landowners, Land Managers and Hunters - upon application to the Department on forms provided for tag issuance.

Applications for alligator tag allotments will be taken annually beginning August 1 and ending 10 days after the season opens.

(a) Maximum tag issuance to individual landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall be determined solely by the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

(b) Land managers and hunters must present a notarized document from the landowner verifying their selection to represent that landowner and the total acreage represented to obtain hide tags.

(c) Payment for all alligator tags shall be received by the Department prior to issuance. Numbered alligator hide tags shall only be issued in the name of the license holder and are nontransferable. A refund will be issued for all unused alligator tags which are returned within the required time frame designated in these regulations.

Violation of parts 1 and 2 of this Subsection are class 2 violations as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator farmers - upon request to the Department at any time at least two weeks prior to scheduled harvesting, subject to verification of available stock by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. If an alligator hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which hide tags were issued, all unused hide tags and alligators in possession shall be confiscated and the violator's alligator hunting license shall be revoked. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunting licenses immediately prior to the annual open season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Alligator farmers shall adhere to the annual skinning requirements when skinning farm raised alligators. Alligators not skinned in compliance with the established specific requirements shall be considered illegal and shall be confiscated by the Department.

6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to

sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an alligator hunter. The tag shall be attached in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. Alligator farmers may wait until farm raised alligators are skinned prior to tagging but only if the alligator has not left the farm premises. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

G. Open Season, Open Areas, and Bag Limits.

1. Open seasons are as follows:

(a) The general open season for taking alligators in the wild may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting. The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

(b) Nuisance control hunters may take nuisance alligators at any time as prescribed by the Department.

(c) Farm raised alligators may be taken at any time following the issuance of hide tags by the Department.

(d) The open season for collection of alligator eggs from the wild shall be from May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. The open areas are as follows:

(a) For the general open season, those areas designated by the technical staff of the Department as alligator habitat and which can sustain an alligator harvest.

(b) The Department may select public lakes and lands for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by Department personnel. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. Applications must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date. A public drawing will be held to select hunters. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake per season. The tag quota for each lake and hunter will be established by the

technical staff of the Department. Alligator tags issued on public lakes and lands are nontransferable.

(c) Wild alligators in the remainder of the state may be taken only under provisions as prescribed by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. The daily and season bag limit is equal to the number of valid alligator hide tags that a licensed alligator hunter possesses. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Non resident alligator hunters may only take three (3) alligator during the open season. Violation of this part is a class 4 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Harvest rates will be calculated annually by Department personnel based on biological data. Alligator hide tag allotments will be established prior to issuance of alligator hunting licenses.

H. Possession.

1. No person shall possess alligators or alligator hides in Louisiana without valid official tags properly attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or hide shall result in confiscation of both the alligator or hide and tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator farmers may request hide tags or shipping labels from the Department to be used on farm-raised alligators that have died unexpectedly and may hold those alligators in freezers until receipt of the requested hide tags or shipping labels. These alligators may be held in freezers for a maximum of 60 days prior to disposal. All alligators 24 inches and greater in length that die unexpectedly must be properly skinned and tagged with an alligator hide tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. No person other than a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur buyer or licensed fur dealer may possess a tagged or labeled alligator, a tagged raw or salted hide of an alligator at any time, provided that legally documented tagged or labeled alligators or tagged hides may be possessed without license while in transit, or during processing for tanning or taxidermy. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess live alligators at any time other than by a permit issued by the Department upon request for use in displays and educational purposes, and by holders of valid Department issued permits for scientific purposes. Live, farm raised alligators and their alligator hide tags may be held for processing by a properly licensed alligator skinning facility without a license or permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess alligator eggs at any time other than Department permitted Designated Collection Agents assisting a licensed and permitted alligator farmer during wild egg collection, or a holder of a valid Department issued permit for scientific purposes. Any alligators hatched from scientific permits issued by the Department will be returned to the wild under Departmental supervision following completion of the research project. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

I. Importation, Exportation, Purchase, and Sale.

1. Alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators, may be brought into the state only if the alligators, alligator hides or parts of alligators were lawfully taken in another state or country and the person, firm or corporation bringing the alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or alligator parts into the state has obtained written permission from the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. All alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators possessed, sold, purchased, exported, imported, or brought into the state from another state shall be accompanied by documented evidence that they were lawfully taken. Documented evidence shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(a) A resource user license or permit number allowing the taking of alligators and tags or other identification required by the state or country of origin shall be firmly attached to the alligator, alligator hide, or parts of alligators; and

(b) A tag or label is affixed to the outside of any package or container of alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts that specifies type of contents, indicates quantity contained, and lists applicable

license or permit numbers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Purchases of alligators, alligator hides and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may not purchase alligators or alligator hides from anyone.

(b) A licensed fur buyer may purchase alligator hides from an Louisiana licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur dealer, or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(c) A licensed fur dealer may purchase alligator hides from a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, fur buyer or another fur dealer.

(d) A licensed alligator farmer may purchase live alligators only from another licensed alligator farmer or the Department.

(e) An alligator farmer may purchase alligator eggs only from another alligator farmer, a landowner/land manager (with an approved Department alligator egg collection permit), or the Department.

(f) A licensed alligator parts dealer may purchase alligator parts from an licensed alligator hunter, alligator farmer, another alligator parts dealer, or the Department.

(g) A licensed parts retailer may purchase canned alligator parts or alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer.

(h) A restaurant may purchase alligator meat to sell prepared for human consumption with a alligator parts retailer license.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Sales of alligators and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may sell alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts taken by the licensee during the general open season to anyone who may legally purchase.

hunting violations will be rejected.

2. Nuisance alligator hunters shall purchase a valid alligator hunter license and are bound by all laws, rules and regulations governing alligator hunting with the exception that nuisance alligators may be taken at anytime. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Nuisance alligator complaints will be verified by Department personnel prior to being approved for removal. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Tags will be issued to nuisance alligator hunters for immediate attachment to alligators when taken. Nuisance alligator hunters will make every attempt possible to catch nuisance alligators and relocate to natural habitat selected by the Department. It is unlawful for any nuisance alligator captured alive to be sold or otherwise disposed of on an alligator farm. Alligators and alligator parts taken and tagged under these provisions may be retained and sold by the nuisance alligator hunter as any other legally taken wild alligator or alligator part. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Nuisance alligator hunters may take alligators by any means prescribed by the Department. Failure to comply with Departmental instructions may result in immediate termination of the individual's participation in the nuisance alligator program. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

K. Report Requirements.

1. Report forms provided by the Department must be completed and filed with the Department by all persons who have been issued an alligator hunter's license, fur buyer's license, fur dealer's license, nongame quadruped exhibitor's license, nongame quadruped breeder's license, alligator parts dealer's license, or alligator egg collection permit in accordance with this Subsection. Reports shall include but not be limited to the information specified in this Subsection.

2. Alligator hunters receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

(c) All unused tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Violation of this requirement shall result in no license or alligator tags being issued to the violator for a period of one year.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department.

(e) Each licensed alligator hunter selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall provide that person with a bill of sale for each transaction.

(f) All records of transactions involving alligator parts of alligator hunters shall be available for inspection by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. A nuisance alligator hunter shall comply with the same report requirements as an alligator hunter and complete any other reports required by the Department. Violation of this requirement shall result in immediate termination of nuisance alligator hunter status. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator farmers receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(c) All unused hide tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Violation of this requirement shall result in the revocation of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid of any alligator hide not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(e) Each alligator farmer shall report annually, no later than December 31, on an official form provided by the Department, all activities that have occurred on the farm for the past year including but not limited to the number of live alligators as of that date, separated by sizes, the number of eggs collected and hatched, the purchase and sale of alligators for the past year and the numbers of alligators lost. Failure to complete this form properly and completely will result in non renewal of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

(f) Each licensed alligator farmer selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall furnish that person with a bill of sale for each transaction. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation.

5. Fur buyers and fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must keep within the state a complete record on forms provided by the Department, all purchases and sales made of alligator hides as described in Title 56, and;

(a) Every buyer or dealer having undressed alligator hides in his possession after the close of each open season shall file with the Department within 60 days or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report, on forms provided by the Department, a detailed description of alligator hides then owned or held in possession as owner or agent.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. Fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must maintain complete records of alligator hides purchased inside and outside the state as described in

Title 56. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the required severance tax subjects any dealer to the full penalties provided and the immediate revocation of his license by the Department. No license shall be issued to a dealer who has not paid the tax for the preceding year. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator parts dealers purchasing alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts purchase form for each purchase. Alligator parts dealers selling alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the Department and shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the open season and at 60-day intervals until final disposition of all wild parts. These forms shall be submitted annually for all farm raised alligator parts, and;

(a) Alligator parts dealers shall furnish a bill of sale to anyone purchasing alligator parts.

(b) The records of transactions involving alligator parts shall be available for inspection by the Department and shall be maintained complete for a period of one year following any transaction.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Any alligator parts retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase and these records shall be available for inspection by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

L. Alligator Meat.

1. Alligator meat from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to state and federal laws, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator meat processed in the State of Louisiana and sold for human consumption must be processed in a licensed facility approved by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the facility must display a valid permit issued by that agency. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator carcasses being shipped whole shall be tagged with an alligator parts tag properly identifying the carcasses and shall remain on the carcasses until the processing makes

identification impossible. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator hunters and alligator farmers involved in alligator parts transactions with individual consumers shall properly tag all alligator parts and the parts tag shall remain attached until final disposition. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. All alligator meat processed for sale must be packaged in suitable containers which identifies the contents as alligator meat, is marked with a valid Department license number and comply with all state and federal packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. All alligator meat shipped into the state and being offered for sale must meet all of Louisiana's health, processing, packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

M. Disposal of Alligators by the Department.

1. The Department may sell alligators, alligator eggs or parts of alligators taken for any purpose deemed necessary for proper management of the species pursuant to Title 56.

2. The Department may dispose of alligators, alligator eggs, or parts of alligators by donation or lending to a scientific institution or other institutions that the Department deems have need for such alligators, however these institutions cannot sell or barter these animals and must be returned to the Department at the conclusion of the program or need.

3. Confiscated alligator hides and parts may be destroyed by the Department pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

4. Confiscated live alligator eggs or alligators will be cared for by the Department and released in suitable alligator habitat when and where they can survive. All costs incurred by the Department in the maintenance of these eggs and animals in captivity shall be the responsibility of the offender and restitution shall be made to the Department.

N. Alligator Egg Collection.

1. Alligator egg collection permits are a three party permit between the Department, the permittee and a landowner/manager who owns or leases alligator nesting habitat determined by Department biologists to be capable of producing alligator eggs. The numbers of eggs to be collected will be based upon biological management criteria and will be determined annually

by technical staff of the Department. The Department only estimates the numbers of eggs available and assumes no responsibility or offers no guarantee that those numbers of eggs will be available. Alligator egg collection permits may be obtained upon application to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The annual deadline for submitting applications for Alligator Egg Collection Permits is June 1. This program is experimental and may be changed at any time based on biological data to insure for proper management of the wild alligator population.

2. Alligator egg collection permits may be issued by the Department provided:

(a) Permittee is a properly licensed alligator farmer and meets all applicable requirements in Subsection O of these regulations (Alligator Farm Facility Requirements).

(b) All land documentation required on the alligator egg collection permit has been presented to the Department.

(c) Department biologists determine the properties described on the permit application are indeed alligator nesting habitat and can sustain alligator egg collections.

(d) Applicant has obtained all legal and necessary signatures from landowners/land managers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. It is unlawful for an alligator farmer or a permitted Designated Collection Agent to collect eggs from properties other than those described in the alligator egg collection permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. An alligator farmer or designated collection agent in the act of collecting or possessing alligator eggs must possess on his or her person a copy of the fully executed alligator egg collection permit. The designated collection agent must also possess a valid designated collection agent permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Collection of wild alligator eggs can only be made after contacting the appropriate Department Enforcement Agent no less than 24 hours prior to each collection trip. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Alligator eggs can only be collected from the wild from official sunrise to official sunset and only during the established alligator egg collection season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator eggs collected from the wild must be collected and transported in a manner which insures the greatest survival of viable eggs as determined by Department biologists. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each clutch of alligator eggs collected should be maintained as a separate entity from time of collection through incubation and hatching.

9. Failure to hatch at least 70% of viable alligator eggs collected from the wild shall be considered a waste of Louisiana's natural resources. All alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued should an alligator farmer be found to waste the resources of this state for two consecutive years.

10. Alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued to alligator farmers who fail to average a minimum hatchling survival rate of 85% for two consecutive years.

11. The alligator egg collection permittee and the landowner are responsible for returning the percentage of live alligators to the wild described on the alligator egg collection permit. This requirement is nontransferable. Minimum return rates will be based upon the state average hatching success which is 78%. Each alligator shall be returned to the original egg collection area. Each alligator shall be a minimum of 48" in size and the returned sex ratio should contain at least 50% females. The Department shall be responsible for supervising the required return of these alligators. Releases back to the wild will only occur between April 15 and September 15 of each calendar year. Should an alligator egg collection permittee be unable to release the required number of alligators to the wild from his own stock, he shall be required to purchase additional alligators from another farmer to meet compliance with the alligator egg collection permit and these regulations, as supervised by the Department. Department sanctioned participants in ongoing studies involving survivability and return rates are exempt from these requirements during the period of the study. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. The percentage of 48" alligators to be returned to the wild shall be selected from the healthiest of all alligators

of that year class. Abnormal or deformed alligators are not acceptable for release into the wild. It is unlawful for alligators that are to be returned to the wild to be transported out of state. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

O. Alligator Farm Facility Requirements.

1. All first time applicants for a nongame quadruped breeder's or exhibitor's license who will house alligators on their premises shall show compliance of the following minimum facilities as applicable to their particular operation during a required facility examination by Department personnel prior to license issuance:

(a) Secured premises with adequate barriers to prevent escape of enclosed alligators and entry by alligators from outside the farm and to deter theft of alligators.

(b) Source of clean, fresh water which shall be adequate to ensure for proper care of all alligator stock and facilities. This requirement shall be determined by Department personnel.

(c) Provisions for both dry area and pooled water within the secured area adequate for the numbers of alligators to be housed on the premises. This requirement will be determined by Department personnel.

(d) Provision for winter protection, either through adequate denning space or an enclosed, controlled-temperature environment of a design acceptable to the Department.

(e) All controlled-temperature alligator sheds shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each shed shall be capable of maintaining a minimum constant temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit. Minimum space requirements for alligators housed in the shed shall be:

(i) One square foot of space shall be required for each alligator less than 24" in length.

(ii) Three square feet of space shall be required for each alligator measuring 25" to 48" in length.

(iii) One additional square foot of space shall be required for each additional 6 inches of alligator length for alligators above four feet in length.

(f) All alligator egg incubators shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each incubator shall

maintain a water and air temperature of 85 to 91 degrees fahrenheit during the egg incubation.

(g) Applicant must be in compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to zoning, construction, health and environmental standards and must possess any and all applicable permits and licenses.

(h) All alligator facilities should be constructed in an suitable location so as to minimize contact with people.

2. Following initial issuance of applicable license, all applicable facility requirements shall be adhered to and Department personnel have the authority to inspect any and all of the facilities at any time. Failure to adhere to the requirements shall be a violation of these rules and violators will be given 60 days to correct the problem. Failure to comply shall result in confiscation of all animals and/or closure of all facilities. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. All alligator farmers possessing alligator eggs outside an alligator nest should house these eggs in identifiable original clutch groups in an incubator providing constant temperature and humidity conditions. All incubators used to incubate alligator eggs shall be of a design to allow for maximum temperature control and conform to Department requirements to allow for the maximum hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. All alligator farmers possessing alligator hatchlings shall house hatchlings in controlled environmental chambers capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit year round and containing dry and wet areas of sufficient surface area to permit all alligators to completely submerge in water and completely exit from water and orient in any direction, without touching the sides of the chambers. All alligators 48" or less in length shall be housed in environmental chambers unless a special permit is issued by the Department to move them to outside growth areas. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator farmers shall house alligators of different lengths into at least three groups, providing separation for all alligators less than two feet in length, two to four feet in length, and over four feet in length. Land and water areas sufficient for complete submersion or complete exit from water shall be provided for each group of alligators held. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Nesting activity of captive alligators shall be recorded with weekly accounts of nests constructed, eggs collected, number of viable eggs set and hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Complete written records shall be maintained by the license holder and shall be submitted to the Department on a standardized annual report form provided by the Department, which shall be provided as part of the annual license renewal. These reports must be submitted no later than December 31 of each year. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

8. All facilities, alligator stock, and records are subject to examination by Department personnel prior to permitting and thereafter during farm operation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

9. It shall be unlawful for alligator eggs or alligators to be moved from a licensed premises without approval of the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

P. Exceptions.

1. These regulations do not require licenses, labels, or permits for consumers who purchase or possess goods processed or manufactured from alligators which have been legally taken or raised, provided that such goods are used by the consumer and are not sold or bartered in conjunction with a wholesale or retail business activity.

2. The Department or an authorized representative of the Department may take by any means and possess alligators or parts of alligators while in the performance of official duties.

3. These regulations shall not prohibit a person from killing an alligator in immediate defense of his or her life or the lives of others. Alligators killed under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. These regulations do not require a state license or permit of persons who deal in finished alligator leather products.

Q. Penalty for Violation.

1. In order to facilitate greater control over alligator trafficking, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries finds that public welfare imperatively requires emergency action when the provisions of these regulations are

violated.

2. If citations are issued for a violation of these regulations, all licenses and tags belonging to or in the possession of the cited party shall be suspended until such time as the said party appears before Department officials for purposes of reviewing the citations issued. The Secretary, after reviewing the proceedings may reinstate or revoke the suspension. The alleged violator may lose all rights and privileges to participate in this program if found guilty by criminal or civil process.

3. The Department shall have the authority to confiscate any alligators or alligator eggs from any person or facility that is not caring for the alligators or alligator eggs in a humane manner. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs consists but is not limited to conditions which could have an adverse effect upon the alligators or alligator eggs such as sanitary conditions, temperature control, feeding, or overcrowding. The confiscated alligators and alligator eggs shall be disposed of as the Department deems necessary. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. In addition to all penalties set forth herein, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution under provisions of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Titles 14 and 56 and under Federal law.

5. In addition to all other penalties provided by these rules and by statute, violation of any part of these regulations may result in the suspension and/or revocation of any or all alligator licenses held by the violator and, as further penalty, for serious, repeat, or multiple violations, the Department shall have the right to deny a violator any and all licenses relating to alligators for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed regulations to Johnnie W. Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:260, 262, 262.1 and 262.2.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

#12

RESOLUTION

1990 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
July 5, 1990 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana

WHEREAS, R.S.56:497 provides the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each year for all inside waters, and

WHEREAS, R.S.49:967 states that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may employ the provisions of R.S.49:953(B) when setting the shrimp season thereby allowing the most recent technical data be considered in determining the opening and closing dates, and

WHEREAS, R.S.56:498 provides the minimum size count on white shrimp is 100 (whole shrimp) count per pound, and

WHEREAS, Historically biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has shown white shrimp in coastal Louisiana average 100 count minimum size or larger as provided for in R.S.56:498 by mid-August each year, and

WHEREAS, Historically the fall inshore "white" shrimp season opened on the third Monday in August, and

WHEREAS, in 1990 the third Monday in August will be August 20.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2 and 3 at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

May Com meeting

Virginia Van Fickle

Oyster Inst Force

?

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

13
Zero
redraft

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to prohibit the harvest and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) within or without Louisiana's territorial waters. The measures are to be consistent with federal regulations which were designed to restore the declining jewfish resource.

The proposed rule will read as follows:

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 337. Taking and Possession of Jewfish Prohibited

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters for the three year period November 1, 1990 to October 31, 1993.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Section 22 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to: John E. Roussel, Marine Fish Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.56:22

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R.16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S.49:953(b), the Administrative Procedures Act; R.S.49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and size limits and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto, and R.S.56:22 which authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to prohibit the taking of any species of fish for not more than the three year period, when it deems it for the best interest of the state; the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission finds that imminent peril to the public welfare exists, hereby declares an emergency and adopts the following rule:

EMERGENCY RULE

Pursuant to R.S.56:22, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters. This emergency rule shall become effective 12:00 noon, Monday July 9, 1990, and shall expire upon the effective date of the final rule. The final rule shall expire upon October 31, 1993.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to prohibit the harvest and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) within or without Louisiana's territorial waters. The measures are to be consistent with federal regulations which were designed to restore the declining jewfish resource.

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HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R.16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

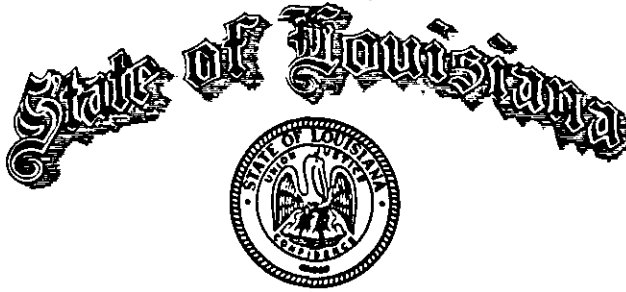
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Warren Pol
Chairman



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 2, 1990

Mr. John R. Rombach
Legislative Fiscal Officer
P. O. Box 94097
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9097

ATT: Bob Hosse

RE: Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Notice of Intent: Jewfish
Closure

Dear Mr. Rombach:

Enclosed for your consideration, please find Fiscal and Economic
Impact Statement for the enclosed Notice of Intent and Rule
relative to:

Taking and possession of jewfish from within or without
Louisiana waters for three year period November 1, 1990
to October 31, 1993.

If further information is needed, please contact Mr. John Roussel
at 765-2383.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Virginia Van Sickle".

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

VVS:sb

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person

Preparing

Statement: John Roussel

Dept: La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

Phone: (504) 765-2383

Office: Fisheries

Return

Address: La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

Rule

Title: Jewfish Harvest Prohibition

P.O. Box 98000

Date Rule

Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Takes Effect: _____

SUMMARY

(Use complete sentences)

In accordance with Section 953 of Title 49 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, there is hereby submitted a fiscal and economic impact statement on the rule proposed for adoption, repeal or amendment. The following summary statements, based on the attached worksheets, will be published in the Louisiana Register with the proposed agency rule.

I. ESTIMATED IMPLEMENTATION COSTS (SAVINGS) TO STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
(Summary)

There will be no state or local governmental implementation costs.

II. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS
(Summary)

There will be no effect on revenue collections of state or local governmental units.

III. ESTIMATED COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS (Summary)

There will be no costs and/or economic benefits to directly affected persons or non-governmental groups.

IV. ESTIMATED EFFECT ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT (Summary)

There will be no effect on competition and employment.

Bettie Baker
Signature of Agency Head or Designee

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

Bettie Baker, Undersecretary
Typed Name and Title of Agency Head or Designee

7/2/90
Date of Signature

Date of Signature

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

The following information is required in order to assist the Legislative Fiscal Office in its review of the fiscal and economic impact statement and to assist the appropriate legislative oversight subcommittee in its deliberations on the proposed rule.

- A. Provide a brief summary of the content of the rule (if proposed for adoption, or repeal) or a brief summary of the change in the rule (if proposed for amendment). Attach a copy of the notice of intent and a copy of the rule proposed for initial adoption or repeal (or, in the case of a rule change, copies of both the current and proposed rules with amended portions indicated).

The proposed rule prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish within and without Louisiana waters.

- B. Summarize the circumstances which require this action. If the action is required by federal regulations, attach a copy of the applicable regulation.

The proposed rule provides for consistency with existing federal regulations governing the harvest and possession of jewfish in federal waters off Louisiana. Recent reviews of the available data on jewfish by the National Marine Fisheries Service have indicated that jewfish in the Gulf of Mexico are in need of additional protection.

- C. Compliance with Act 11 of the 1986 First Extraordinary Session
(1) Will the proposed rule change result in any increase in the expenditure of funds?
If so, specify amount and source of funding.

There will be no increase in expenditure of funds.

- (2) If the answer to (1) above is yes, has the Legislature specifically appropriated the funds necessary for the associated expenditure increase?

- (a) _____ Yes. If yes, attach documentation.
(b) _____ No. If no, provide justification as to why this rule change should be published at this time.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

I. A. COSTS OR SAVINGS TO STATE AGENCIES RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED

1. What is the anticipated increase (decrease) in costs to implement the proposed action?

COSTS	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
PERSONAL SERVICES			
OPERATING EXPENSES			
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
OTHER CHARGES			
EQUIPMENT	-0-	-0-	-0-
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-

MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.

POSITIONS (#)	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------------	-----	-----	-----

2. Provide a narrative explanation of the costs or savings shown in "A.1.", including the increase or reduction in workload or additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.) anticipated as a result of the implementation of the proposed action. Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these costs.

There will be no costs or savings and no increase or reduction in workload or paperwork as a result of implementation of this rule.

3. Sources of funding for implementing the proposed rule or rule change.

SOURCE	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED			
DEDICATED			
FEDERAL FUNDS			
OTHER (Specify)			
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-

4. Does your agency currently have sufficient funds to implement the proposed action? If not, how and when do you anticipate obtaining such funds?

B. COST OR SAVINGS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS RESULTING FROM THE ACTION PROPOSED.

1. Provide an estimate of the anticipated impact of the proposed action on local governmental units, including adjustments in workload and paperwork requirements. Describe all data, assumptions and methods used in calculating this impact.

There will be no impact on local governmental units as a result of the proposed action.

2. Indicate the sources of funding of the local governmental unit which will be affected by these costs or savings.

No local governmental funding sources will be affected.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

II. EFFECT ON REVENUE COLLECTIONS OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

A. What increase (decrease) in revenues can be anticipated from the proposed action?

REVENUE INCREASE/DECREASE	FY 89-90	FY 90-91	FY 91-92
STATE GENERAL FUND			
AGENCY SELF-GENERATED			
RESTRICTED FUNDS*			
FEDERAL FUNDS			
LOCAL FUNDS			
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-

*Specify the particular fund being impacted.

B. Provide a narrative explanation of each increase or decrease in revenues shown in "A." Describe all data, assumptions, and methods used in calculating these increases or decreases.

There will be no change in revenues as a result of the proposed action.

FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

WORKSHEET

III. COSTS AND/OR ECONOMIC BENEFITS TO DIRECTLY AFFECTED PERSONS OR NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS

- A. What persons or non-governmental groups would be directly affected by the proposed action? For each, provide an estimate and a narrative description of any effect on costs, including workload adjustments and additional paperwork (number of new forms, additional documentation, etc.), they may have to incur as a result of the proposed action.

Recreational and commercial fishermen as well as scuba spearfishermen will be directly affected by the proposed action, however there will be no effect on costs, no workload adjustments, and no additional paperwork as a result of the proposed state measures.

- B. Also provide an estimate and a narrative description of any impact on receipts and/or income resulting from this rule or rule change to these groups.

There should be no impacts on receipts and/or income as a result of the proposed rule. Total commercial landings in Louisiana during the past 5 years have averaged less than 900 pounds and it is likely that 0 pounds were harvested from state waters. Likewise the recreational harvest has been insignificant with the recreational state water harvest being negligible.

IV. EFFECTS ON COMPETITION AND EMPLOYMENT

Identify and provide estimates of the impact of the proposed action on competition and employment in the public and private sectors. Include a summary of any data, assumptions and methods used in making these estimates.

The proposed action should have no effect on competition and employment in the public and private sectors.

RULE

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Title 76
Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

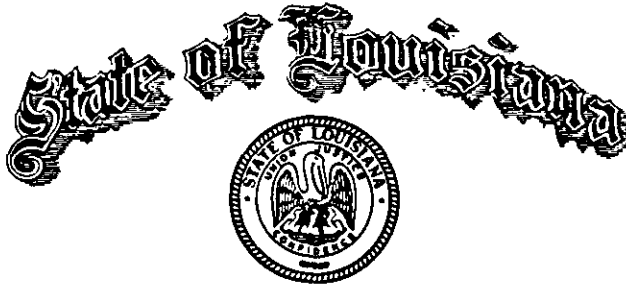
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Warren Pol
Chairman



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

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Legislative Fiscal Officer
P. O. Box 94097
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9097

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Secretary

VVS:sb

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FOR ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

Person
Preparing
Statement:

John Roussel

Dept: La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

Phone: (504) 765-2383

Office: Fisheries

Return
Address: La. Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

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Bettsie Baker
Signature of Agency Head or Designee

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICER OR DESIGNEE

Bettsie Baker, Undersecretary
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OPERATING EXPENSES			
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES			
OTHER CHARGES			
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TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-
MAJOR REPAIR & CONSTR.			
POSITIONS (#)	-0-	-0-	-0-

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FISCAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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EASTERN WILD TURKEY IN LOUISIANA



DAN TIMMER, JR.
TURKEY STUDY LEADER

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries





BUDDY ROEMER
Governor

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

WARREN I. POL, *Chairman*..... Baton Rouge
JAMES H. JENKINS JR. *Vice Chairman*..... Baton Rouge
DONALD E. HINES,..... Bunkie
JOE PALMISANO, JR.,..... Chauvin
NORMAN McCALL..... Cameron
BERT JONES,..... Simsboro
PETE VUJNOVICH,..... New Orleans

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
Secretary

A. KELL MCINNIS, III BETTSIE BAKER
Deputy Secretary *Undersecretary*
JERRY CLARK
Assistant Secretary

DIVISION CHIEFS

HUGH A. BATEMAN, *Administrator, Game*
BOB DENNIE, *Administrator, Information/Education*
BENNIE J. FONTENOT, *Administrator, Fish*
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U.S. Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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Front cover of wild turkey gobbler photographed by John T. Lincecum. Inside photographs furnished by Dave Moreland and other LDWF personnel.

INTRODUCTION

Wild turkeys occur uniquely in North America; two species exist, *Meleagris gallopavo*, which is found in the United States, northern Mexico, and southern Canada and *Agriocharis ocellata*, which occurs in southeastern Mexico and Central America. Six subspecies of *Meleagris gallopavo* range across the United States and extend into Mexico and Canada. The subspecies of wild turkey found in Louisiana is the eastern wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo silvestris*).

Although American Indians hunted wild turkey for meat and feathers, they never domesticated the birds. The Aztec Indians, on the other hand, successfully domesticated a subspecies. These domesticated birds were among the first "treasures" returned to Europe by the Spanish conquistadors in the early 1500's. Europeans found the meat to be enjoyable and by the mid-1500's the European continent had a thriving domestic population of the imported "American" birds.

The introduction of turkeys to Europe also apparently accounted for the common name. The word "turkey" was in widespread use in Europe to describe any large bird which spread its tail. Consequently, the common term was also applied to the tasty American birds that fanned their tail feathers.

Nearly a century later, Europeans arriving on the New England shores brought domesticated turkeys with them. The settlers were, in fact, simply returning turkeys to the birds' native continent. It is estimated that ten million native wild turkeys roamed North America before the first settlers and domesticated turkeys gained a foothold on the eastern seaboard. Historical accounts describe the tame birds as small and unattractive creatures, surpassed greatly by the wild turkeys in both size and beauty.

Although wild and domesticated turkeys can interbreed, it was noted then as now that their offspring possess little natural instinct for survival in the wild. Lacking the hardiness of the true wild turkey, cross-bred birds quickly succumb to Mother Nature's hardships. To this day, efforts to introduce such cross-bred birds into the wild have proven fruitless. Even attempts to artificially incubate wild turkey eggs and "pen-raise" the poults for stocking have generally failed. In addition to the almost immediate loss of natural "wildness" and survivability, pen-raised birds pose a serious threat of introducing

state of Louisiana to be in possession of any strain of native wild turkey at any time.

The practice of allowing domestic turkey flocks to roam freely in wild turkey habitat should be avoided. Domestic turkeys and wild turkeys intermingle; thus, parasites and diseases can quickly spread to the wild birds by either direct association or by contamination of the range, which can prove to be devastating to a wild turkey management effort.

SUMMARY

As a result of the drastic and ongoing changes occurring in forested habitat in Louisiana, wild turkeys have shown an adaptability and survivability that has surprised even professional wildlife managers. After more than a half-century of intensive study and management, it now appears that this grandest of all game birds will continue to occupy Louisiana as long as its specific habitat requirements can be provided. Habitat management alone is not sufficient to assure a successful, viable wild turkey program.

To insure the continued presence of wild turkeys, we must have an educated public which recognizes the needs of these magnificent creatures and their intrinsic value to all Louisiana citizens. It requires a well-informed public to demand vigorous enforcement of game laws. Finally, the continued existence of the wild turkey in Louisiana rests with the individual landowners of the state, without whose support and cooperation no wildlife management program can hope to succeed.

Further optimization may be achieved through a cooperative agreement between two or more owners of small tracts. Although the primary utilization of the component tracts may be diverse, the combined tracts may often be manipulated to attract transient flocks or even to hold resident flocks in the combined total area.

Of course, cost factors must be considered and the primary utilization of any property will be a vital consideration. Open lands used primarily for heavy grazing by domestic livestock and croplands subjected to intensive clean-farming practices will not optimize management considerations for wild turkeys. Likewise, conversion of property to pure pine plantation is not compatible with wild turkey management.

Any wild turkey management plan requires a comprehensive analysis of habitats available, not only on the total property to be managed but also on surrounding properties. Such an analysis should include: 1) all highways, secondary roads, logging, or dirt roads and trails, 2) all openings, including pastures, croplands, abandoned fields, etc., 3) power and pipeline rights of way, 4) pure pine stands, mixed pine-hardwood stands, hardwood areas and bottomlands, 5) all available water sources and their seasonal availabilities (wild turkeys select domestic use areas more than $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from available water), 6) all dwellings, commercial buildings, and farm sites, 7) and any acreage on which land-use may be altered in the near future.

Hardwood mast production is vital to any wild turkey management plan. As oaks, beech, and hickories are removed in favor of pure pine plantations, wild turkey populations will inevitably decline. The same is true when existing hardwoods reach an over-mature stage. Successive growth of vigorous mast-producers must be assured for a successful, long-range wild turkey management plan. It is also well-established that wild turkeys prefer relatively open woodland areas and shun dense, tangled undergrowth. Consequently, a three-year cycle of controlled burning enhances the attraction of turkeys to woodlands; this would also serve to improve turkey habitat in pine plantations.

Finally, in any attempt to manage property for the production of wild turkeys, the temptation to introduce pen-raised wild turkeys for either seedstock or supplementary stocking must be avoided. Due to the danger of introducing disease into native wild turkey flocks via pen-raised birds, such stocking efforts are prohibited by state law. In fact, it is illegal in the

a wide variety of poultry parasites and diseases into wild flocks with catastrophic results.

This publication is intended to be a brief and general look at wild turkey and its management in Louisiana. For more technical information, several references are listed under "Suggested Readings". The author would like to thank P. Groetsch for reviewing and editing this manuscript, M. Cock-erham for his research into the early history of the wild turkey in Louisiana, and S. Braud for typing the many successive drafts. Also I wish to thank the Louisiana Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation for their contribution of \$4,000 to help defray the cost of this publication.

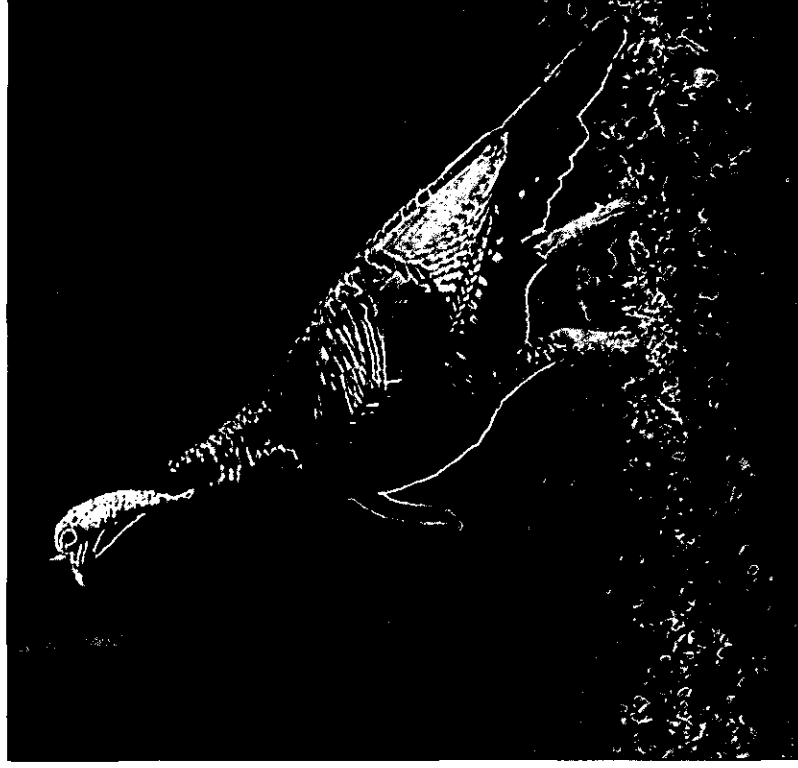


Fig. 1 Mature gobbler or tom



Fig. 2 Mature hen turkey

DESCRIPTION

Wild turkeys are the largest of American game birds. A male, called a gobbler or Tom, may measure four feet in length when mature and weigh more than 20 pounds (Fig. 1). The mature female, called a hen, may stand nearly as tall but is usually considerably lighter, averaging 10 to 12 pounds (Fig. 2). Gobblers can be identified by red and/or blue coloration on the head and upper neck which becomes particularly pronounced during the spring breeding season and by a general lack of feathers on the head (Fig. 3). There is also the usual presence of a "beard", a long hair-like appendage sprouting from the mid-breast region (Fig. 4). Although the individual strands of the beard, which may attain a length of 11 inches or more, appear to be coarse hairs, they are actually modified feathers, the purpose of which remains unknown. Beards are occasionally found on female turkeys but are so rare that the presence of a beard is considered to be a secondary sexual characteristic of males. Gobblers also produce a bony growth on the lower leg, just above the foot, called a spur (Fig.5). Hens usually have a thin covering of feathers on back of the neck which extend onto the head, show less coloration on the skin of the head, and lack beards and spurs (Fig. 6).

As an example, a landowner whose property is surrounded by unbroken hardwood tracts may elect to provide scattered forest openings on his property. He may even establish supplementary plantings for late winter and spring use by wild turkeys (Fig. 18). Food plots can be planted on almost any non-wooded area. These plots of one-fourth to five acres can help supplement what is already available. Such planted openings, adjacent to regularly used hardwood tracts, will almost certainly attract turkeys during the spring gobbler season. In such cases, small tracts of land incapable of sustaining resident flocks of wild turkeys can be manipulated for regular use by transient or "visiting" flocks.

Food crops that can be planted for wild turkeys.

NOTE: Apply fertilizer as indicated by soil tests.

CROP	PLANTING DATE	PLANTING DATE	TYPE OF SEEDING	PERIOD USED
Chufa	May-June	30-40 lbs/acre	Broadcast	Fall-Winter
Winter Wheat	September October	2-3 bushels/acre	Drill or Broadcast	Winter
Cowpeas	May-June	1/2 to 3/4 bushels/acre	Broadcast	Late Summer Early Fall
Rye Grass	September October	40 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Winter Spring
Bahia Grass	Early Spring	20 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Summer Early Fall
Grain Sorghum	Mid-July	6-8 lbs./acre	Drill	Fall Winter
Oats	September	4 bushels/acre	Broadcast	Winter Spring
Corn	March-April	8 lbs./acre	Drill in rows	Fall-Winter
Crimson Clover	Fall	20 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Late Winter Spring
White Clover	Fall	2-4 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Late Winter Spring
Brown Top Millet	June-July	20 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Fall-Winter
Japanese Millet	June-July	15-20 lbs./acre	Broadcast	Fall-Winter

Fig. 18

eral forest types intermixed. Approximately 10% of the range should be openings well interspersed with forest. Coniferous and cypress-tupelo stands are desirable for roosting and escape cover. The presence of water in the form of streams, creeks, or lakes is necessary to support a turkey population (Hollis 1947).

Wild turkeys thrive away from human settlements, although low rural populations are tolerated. However, human activity must be kept minimal (crops <15% of the total range, open farmland <20% of the total range, and timber operations must follow good forestry practices) and a portion of the range must be isolated and inaccessible to humans in order for turkeys to be found in conjunction with human activity (Hollis 1947).

Of course, few "ideal" areas remain in Louisiana but experience has demonstrated that a fairly dense population of wild turkeys can be produced and maintained on habitat considerably inferior to the ideal (Hollis 1947). Bottomland hardwoods and upland mixed hardwood-pine forests now hold some of the largest turkey populations found in the state. Prime examples exist in the Mississippi River Delta, the upper Atchafalaya Basin, and the Florida parishes east of the Mississippi River.

In central and western Louisiana, uneven-aged pine forests once considered poor to fair turkey habitat, have produced outstanding turkey flocks. This type of habitat invariably requires a sound stream-bottom hardwood management plan, prescribed burning, small clear-cuts, vigorous control of poaching, and supplemental food-plot plantings.

Small Landowners

It is by now obvious that large tracts of several thousand acres, containing the diverse seasonal habitats required by the wild turkey throughout its annual cycle, offer the highest potential for successfully sustaining wild turkey flocks. That leaves the question of what, if anything, the owner or lessee of smaller tracts can do to attract and sustain flocks of wild turkeys.

Small landowners should carefully review the needs of wild turkey flocks throughout the year and assess the turkey habitat on both his own land and on adjoining properties. Then the landowner can manipulate his property to provide habitat requirements that are lacking on nearby tracts.



Fig. 3 Head of gobbler or tom



Fig. 4 Note "beard" protruding from mid-breast region of adult tom

TURKEY TRAPPING RESULTS

YEAR	TURKEYS TRAPPED IN LA	TURKEYS RECEIVED FROM OTHER STATES	TOTAL
1962	1		1
1963	25		25
1964	9		9
1965	65	Florida - 51; Miss. - 4	126
1966	80	Alabama - 9; Miss. - 5	94
1967	62	Florida - 74; Miss. - 17	153
1968	9	Mississippi - - - - - 33	42
1969	36	Florida - 26; Miss. - 27	89
1970	163	Mississippi - - - - - 19	182
1971	236		236
1972	260		260
1973	136		136
1974	81		81
1975	51		51
1976	78		78
1977	53		53
1978	110		110
1979	93	South Carolina - - - - 6	99
1980	171		171
1981	202	South Carolina - - - 14	216
1982	30	Arkansas - - - - - 3	33
1983	115	S. Carolina - 27; Ark. - 12	154
1984	29		29
1985	171		171
1986	54		54
1987	135	Missouri - - - - - 23	158
1988	258		258
1989	217	South Carolina - - - 29	246
1990	226		226
TOTALS	3,156	379	3,535

Fig. 17

In general, a range of 10,000 acres or more free from grazing and on which wild fires are kept to a minimum is required to support a healthy population of wild turkeys in Louisiana. An optimum of 75-90% of their range should be forested, 50% of the forested area should be hardwoods, 25% of which should be oak species. Forests of high diversity are optimal with sev-

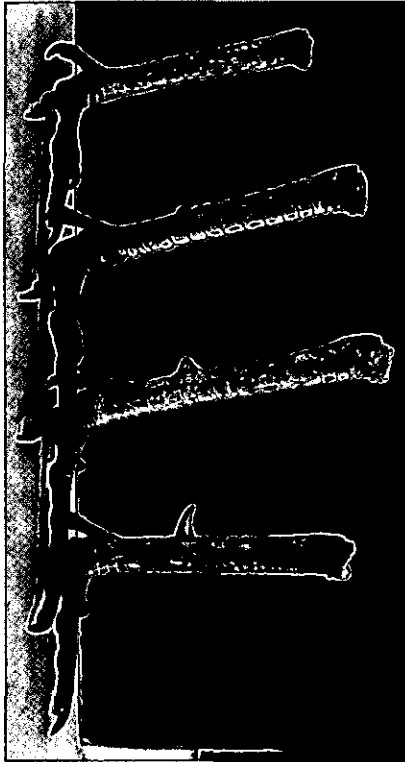


Fig. 5 Spurs of various lengths; hen has no spur



Fig. 6 Head of hen turkey

Wild turkeys can easily be distinguished from domestic turkeys by overall body coloration. The eastern wild turkey exhibits body feathers of a beautiful iridescent bronze and tail feathers tipped with a band of deep chocolate brown. Body feathers of domestic birds are a dark, almost black color and lack the glistening iridescence. Tail feathers are tipped with a pale, white band. In addition, the legs of wild turkeys are long and pink, while domestic stock will show short grey or black legs.

EARLY HISTORY OF THE WILD TURKEY IN LOUISIANA

Eastern wild turkeys once roamed in great abundance across the sparsely populated and heavily timbered landscape of Louisiana. It has been estimated that perhaps a million birds once populated an area that would later comprise about 40 of the state's 64 parishes. Historically, turkeys were absent only in the prairie of the southwest, the cypress-tupelo swamp of the Mississippi Delta, and the coastal marshes (Hollis 1947).

Louisiana's turkey population began to decline however, by the turn of the 20th century when the timber industry began to exploit the state's virgin forests. Thousands of acres of towering mature trees, productive wild turkey habitat, were subjected to the "cut-out and get-out" policy of the time. In many cases, the remaining shrubby vegetation was cleared and burned as a growing and mechanized agricultural industry converted historical timberland into crops and pasture.

Other factors complicated the situation. Prior to the 20th century, wild turkeys had been hunted relentlessly for sustenance, for sport, and by professional hunters supplying food for an increasing urban population. There were no bag limits and tactics such as baiting with grain were commonplace.

The first attempts at establishing hunting regulations to control turkey harvest were little more than token in nature. The first "season" in Louisiana was established in 1902 and ran from November 1 through March 31 with no bag limit and no regard for the sex of birds killed. In 1905, a "gobblers only" rule went into effect. Even then, there was no meaningful attempt at enforcement and the legal bag limit was 25 gobblers PER DAY!

By the end of World War I, wild turkeys were in serious trouble in Louisiana. In 1933, all turkey hunting was prohibited throughout the state. However, there was little game law enforcement while habitat destruction continued unabated. The wild turkey population continued to decline.

In 1941, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries drew upon the newly created Pittman-Robertson Act to fund the state's first in-depth wild turkey research project. The following year, the state's wild turkey population was estimated at 1,738 birds and declining. After a hiatus caused by World War II, wild turkey research resumed. In 1947, field



Fig. 16 Top left - turkey on bait; top right - turkeys under net; bottom left - banding before release; bottom right - release of turkeys in new area

able for the introduction or maintenance of viable wild turkey populations. For example, large areas of suitable habitat have been converted to even-age pine plantations. This trend in forest management can result in large clear-cuts of several hundred acres and in the loss of hardwood forest components which are valuable to wild turkeys. Such lands may not regain their productive potential for turkeys for 15 years or more. A short rotation or cutting cycle can keep large forest acreage less attractive to wild turkeys. Other examples include urbanization and clean farming practices. Wild turkeys cannot thrive in densely populated areas or in areas which have experienced large-scale conversion to row crops or pasture.

studies indicated an all-time low of 1,463 birds concentrated in the Ouachita River bottoms of northeastern Louisiana, the Tensas Basin, and the Florida parishes. The threat of complete extermination was very real (Hollis 1947). Following the forced re-opening of the turkey hunting season in Louisiana by the State Legislature in 1945, the season was again closed in 1949-1950. It reopened on a very limited scale in 1951.

WILD TURKEY TODAY IN LOUISIANA

With increased protection and intensive management, turkey populations today have expanded in the original geographical regions as well as below its southern limits (Fig. 7). The 1990 wild turkey population was estimated at 40,000 birds located in 55 of Louisiana's 64 parishes. (Fig. 8)

Due to the intensive management efforts by professional game managers within the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, and later to the Department's successful turkey

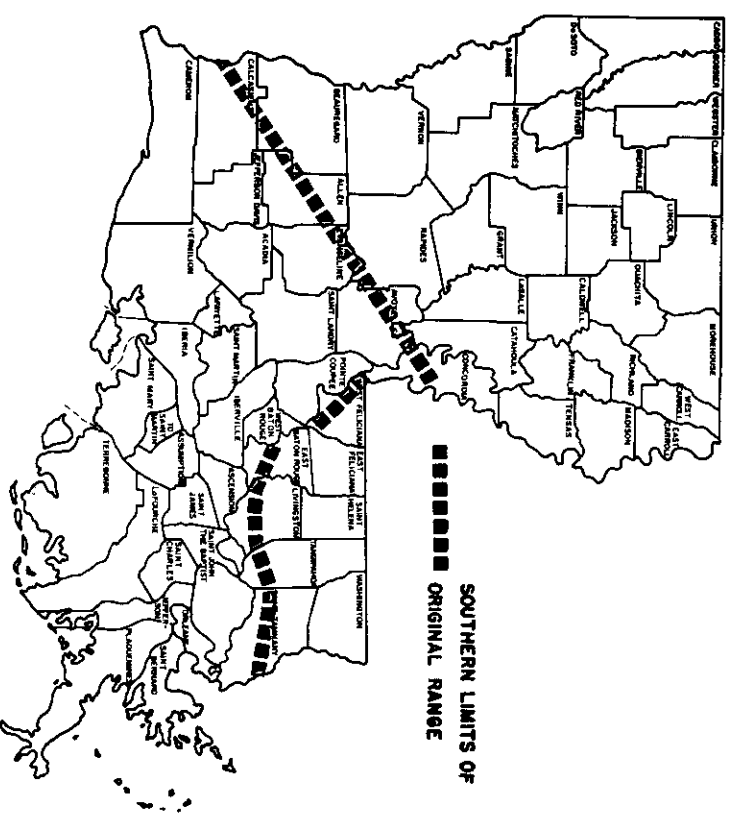


Fig. 7

Additionally, illegal hunting or poaching continues to pose a severe threat to new and established turkey populations. The control of poaching rests upon two essential points. First, there must be active and widespread public support for the protection of wild turkeys. Such support may be realized through the information and education efforts made by the Louisiana Wild Turkey Federation and other sportsmen's groups. These efforts must extend to the general population, landowners in particular, if a meaningful level of success is to be achieved. Secondly, there must be a concerted and sustained law enforcement effort to detect and apprehend poachers in order to discourage and control such illegal activity.

Louisiana

Turkey restoration attempts in Louisiana began in the 1950's with the introduction of game-farm (pen-raised) birds into unoccupied habitat. Despite being released into the very best wild turkey habitat available in Louisiana, game-farm birds failed repeatedly to establish viable populations. Not only have pen-raised birds been unable to sustain their numbers in the wild, they also greatly increase the probability of transmittal of diseases such as blackhead, fowl pox, and *Mycoplasma* to native wild birds.

The restocking (relocation) of live-trapped wild turkeys in Louisiana began in the winter of 1962 and has continued annually through the present. Early trapping methods and equipment, such as drop-nets and walk-in traps, were not effective. They were replaced in the 1970's with the highly efficient cannon net, which remains the principal tool for capturing native wild turkeys today (Fig. 16).

Since 1962, 3,156 wild turkeys trapped within the state and 379 additional wild turkeys obtained from other southeastern states have been released in available turkey habitat throughout Louisiana (Fig. 17). Current plans of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries are to continue live-trapping native wild turkeys and to purchase additional birds for relocation until all available habitat has been stocked.

Habitat loss and degradation continue to be the most significant limiting factors in the success of wild turkey restoration in Louisiana. As a result of certain land management activities, many areas of Louisiana today are no longer suit-

The abundance of insect-life, supplemented with tender vegetation and various seeds, is required for the rapid growth and development of young turkeys in anticipation of the winter months. Adequate escape cover to minimize exposure to avian and mammalian predators must be available throughout the summer and fall forage area.

TURKEY MANAGEMENT

General

Habitat loss and illegal hunting continue to be the most serious threats to the success of both established and newly-introduced turkey flocks. Efforts to enhance and optimize wild turkey production and population levels must therefore include the management of people. The effects of man's presence and his activities ought to receive equal consideration with habitat management.

Present land management practices which have been identified as seriously detrimental to wild turkey production include habitat conversion due to urbanization and road construction, intensive "clean farming" agricultural practices, production of pure pine monoculture plantations (Fig. 15), and large scale clear-cutting. Clear-cutting can be particularly detrimental when combined with disregard for hardwood management in both upland areas and stream-bottoms.



Fig. 15 Pine monoculture plantation

stocking (relocation) project, the turkey hunting season has been continuously expanded. At present, turkey hunting is permitted in 46 parishes and the popularity of the sport is increasing rapidly. An estimated 20,000 plus hunters participate in the sport annually, expending approximately 125,000 individual hunting efforts to take about six thousand turkeys per year.

Louisiana permits turkey hunting in the spring only and hunters may take exclusively gobblers. Nothing but shotguns and archery equipment (no cross-bow) may be used and only call-hunting with mouth or hand operated calling devices is legal. Buckshot, slugs, rifles, baiting, live decoys, and electronic calling devices are strictly prohibited. While stalking turkeys is not illegal, the practice is discouraged due to the greatly increased safety risks involved.

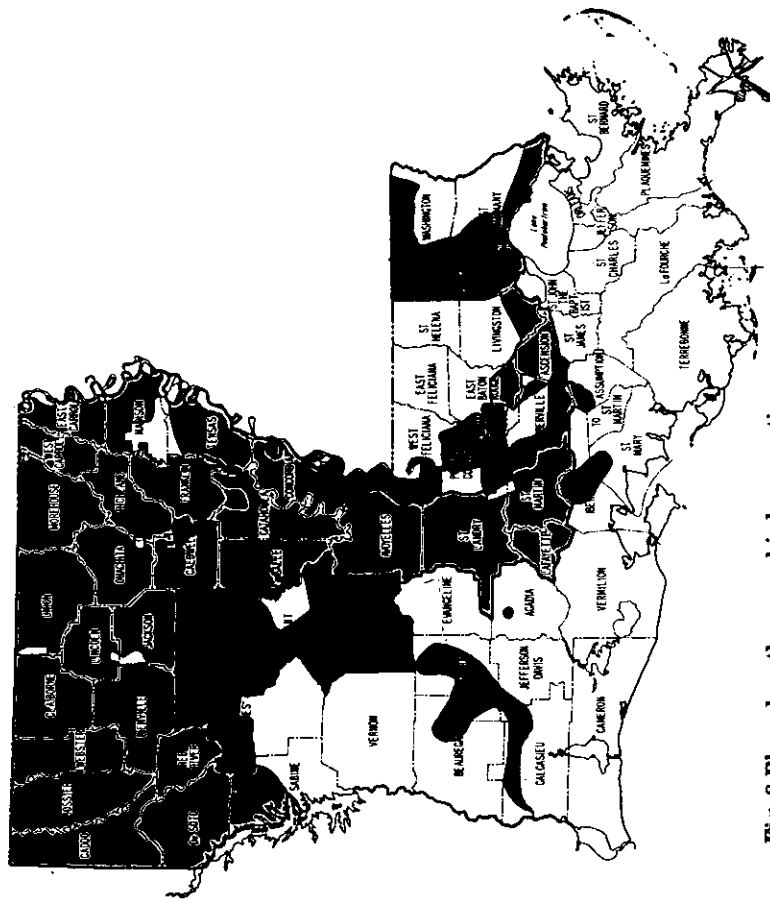


Fig. 8 Blue - less than one bird per section
Green - one to five birds per section
Yellow - six to fifteen birds per section
Red - sixteen to twenty-five birds per section
Brown - twenty-six or more birds per section

REPRODUCTION

Breeding

During most of the year, wild turkeys remain segregated by sex. Gobblers gather in small flocks and remain apart from hens and young birds (Fig. 9). Occasionally gobblers will allow the presence of one or more "jakes" (young-of-the-year males), but this is not common.



Fig. 9 Flock of adult gobblers

Very little factual research has been conducted on the physiological and sociological aspects of the breeding cycle of wild turkeys in Louisiana. It is postulated that increasing photoperiod (the number of daylight hours) stimulates sexual activity (Hewitt 1967). The onset of the breeding cycle is marked by the beginning of "gobbling" among male turkeys, normally non-vocal during the rest of the year. Gobbling in Louisiana usually commences in early March. Much posturing and fighting occurs at this time as the all-gobbler groups breakup. Dominance is established as a result of sparring and, as a rule, the dominant male will perform most of the breeding duties within a given range.

In addition to gobbling, male turkeys employ "strutting" and "drumming" as part of the breeding ritual (Fig. 10). These displays serve to warn and intimidate other male turkeys and also to attract females. Peak copulation activity is thought to occur during the first week of April. Female turkeys continue

ral or man-made, with fairly dense ground and understory vegetation. Such openings may be small clear-cuts (five to ten acres), rights of way, abandoned home-sites, or the bushy margins of food plots and seldom used fields (Fig. 14). Optimally, such forest openings should represent about 10% of the total range available and each should ideally have a permanent source of water nearby.

Summer and Fall

Habitat requirements for wild turkey are virtually identical during the summer and fall in Louisiana. Following the brooding period, hens will lead their poults into forest openings or nearby grasslands in search of insects. This insect-life, high in protein, comprises as much as 80% of the diet of young turkeys during the critical first few weeks of life.

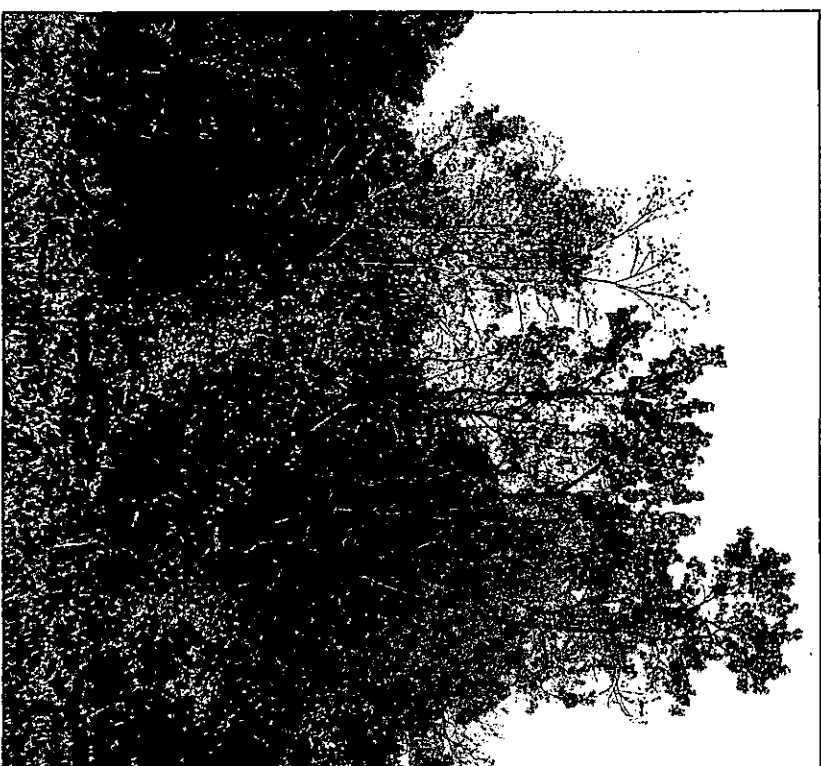


Fig. 14 Prime nesting cover

proper streamside management, and small acreage clear-cutting practices (Fig. 13).

The determination of the habitat requirements for wild turkeys must include consideration of the birds' differing seasonal needs and the various stages of the birds' life-cycle.

Winter

As with many species of wildlife, winter is the most demanding period for wild turkeys. The available turkey range must provide adequate food, protective cover, and suitable roosting areas. Hard-mast foods such as acorns, beechnuts and pine seeds, and soft-mast foods such as sedge nutlets, dogwood and poison-ivy drupes, and honeysuckle and greenbriar berries are essential in the winter diet. In years of low mast production, turkeys will travel for extended distances foraging for food. Escape cover in the form of dense understory vegetation must be available throughout this extended range, which may include several square miles.

Spring

A major habitat requirement in spring is adequate nesting cover. This invariably consists of forest openings, either natu-



Fig. 13 Controlled burn in pine plantation



Fig. 10 Strutting gobbler

to associate and breed with males after preparing a nest and beginning to lay eggs. However, hens need only to be bred once to successfully lay fertile eggs.

Nesting

Female turkeys most often locate a nest site in or near a forest opening. Actual nests are usually built in dense understory vegetation beneath a shrub, at the base of a tree, or otherwise protected from observation or attack from above. Nests are fashioned in a shallow, unlined depression into which eggs are deposited. Peak nesting occurs from the middle of April through mid-May.

Egg laying may not occur each day. Over a period of about two weeks however, a clutch of 10-12 ivory-colored eggs with dark splotches are laid (Fig. 11). Although the initial egg is laid as long as two weeks before the final egg, all hatching occurs within 24 hours since incubation does not begin until all eggs are laid. The incubation period normally lasts 28 days.



Fig. 11 Turkey nest

In the event that an initial nesting effort is unsuccessful due to weather, predation, or other causes, a female will usually initiate a second nesting effort but lay a reduced clutch of six to eight eggs. On the average, 35-50% of wild turkey nests will be successful. The primary cause of a failed nest is predation of eggs or newly hatched poults by snakes, skunks, crows, raccoons, dogs, foxes, coyotes, and other predators.

Additional nesting failures, including abandonment of the nest, result from wild fires, agricultural practices, logging activity, mowing of rights of way, and other forms of human disturbance. Since hens will often cover their eggs with leaves and other debris, a nest may appear to be abandoned when it is actually just temporarily unattended. Eggs should never be taken from a nest in an attempt to personally incubate them.

Poult

The first two to six weeks is the most crucial time in the survival of poults. Only about 50% of the young will survive this period. Most deaths are predator-related; lesser but significant numbers of poults will perish due to health problems

associated with exposure to weather (e.g., heavy rains in combination with cool temperatures) or disease. These young birds depend heavily upon the hen for warmth and protection in order to survive.

Poult grow rapidly on a high protein diet (mostly insects) and at two weeks of age can fly short distances. They are soon able to roost in trees and broaden their diets to include grass seeds and tender vegetation. By about four months of age, they are difficult to distinguish from adult turkeys at a distance.

HABITAT REQUIREMENTS

The theories of early game managers held that hardwood bottoms and upland hardwood areas, comprised of 50-70% mast-producing hardwoods, were necessary for establishing a viable turkey population (Fig. 12). Extensive field research and experimentation have proven however, that wild turkeys can and will flourish in habitat types once considered to be unsatisfactory.

In some cases, mixed pine-hardwood forests comprised of only 10-20% mast-producing hardwoods have proven sufficient to support turkey populations when managed carefully with a controlled burning program, adequate game law enforcement,

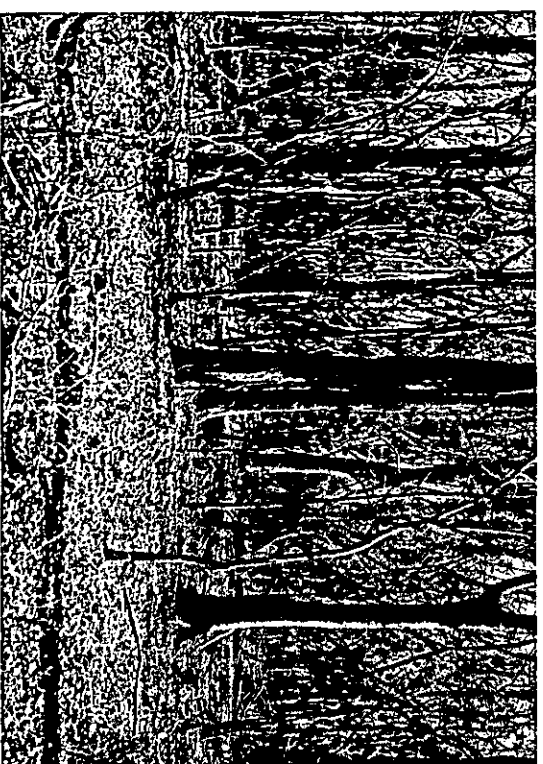


Fig. 12 Hardwood bottom

ROLL CALL
July 5-6, 1990

	Thursday	Friday
Don Hines	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>
Jimmy Jenkins	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>
Bert Jones	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>
Norman McCall	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>
Joe Palmisano	<u>A</u>	<u>A</u>
Warren Pol	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>
Peter Vujnovich	<u>✓</u>	<u>✓</u>

Mr. Chairman:

There are 6 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Van Sickle is also present.

There are 6 Commissioners in attendance and we have a quorum.

Secretary Van Sickle is also present.

RESOLUTION

1990 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
July 5, 1990 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana

WHEREAS, R.S.56:497 provides the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each year for all inside waters, and

WHEREAS, R.S.49:967 states that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may employ the provisions of R.S.49:953(B) when setting the shrimp season thereby allowing the most recent technical data be considered in determining the opening and closing dates, and

WHEREAS, R.S.56:498 provides the minimum size count on white shrimp is 100 (whole shrimp) count per pound, and

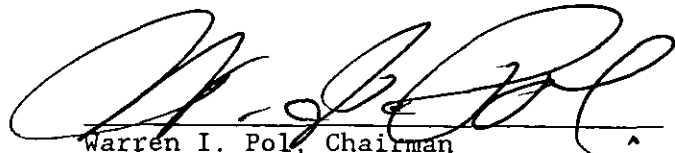
WHEREAS, Historically biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has shown white shrimp in coastal Louisiana average 100 count minimum size or larger as provided for in R.S.56:498 by mid-August each year, and


WHEREAS, Historically the fall inshore "white" shrimp season opened on the third Monday in August, and

WHEREAS, in 1990 the third Monday in August will be August 20.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2 and 3 at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.


Warren I. Pol, Chairman
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
Louisiana Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, because of recent negative publicity generated by a newspaper article which misquotes Dr. Jerry Clark, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fisheries, relative to certain fisheries information, it is the intention of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to inform the public that Dr. Clark was misquoted and the media should correct the misinformation; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has recently voted to request that Dr. Clark, be replaced as the Department's delegate to the Shrimp Task Force; and

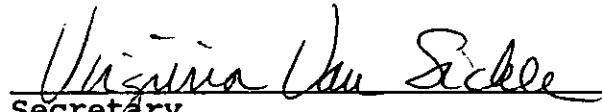
WHEREAS, this Commission takes strong exception to the actions of the Shrimp Task Force and wishes to voice its support for Dr. Clark; and

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes that Dr. Clark has acted professionally and in the best interests of management of Louisiana fisheries, both commercial and recreational.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this Commission does hereby urge the Secretary of the Department to retain Dr. Clark as its delegate to the Shrimp Task Force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Commission does hereby commend
Dr. Clark for his efforts as Assistant Secretary for
the Office of Fisheries.

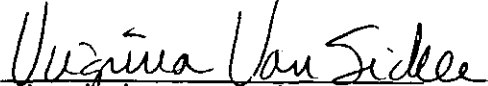

Chairman



Secretary

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

1990-91 FUR HARVEST SEASON

- WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and
- WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase the importance in our state; and
- WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and
- WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment of otter and bobcat furs will require placement of a possession tag by trappers, buyers, or dealers to insure state of origin; and
- WHEREAS, The zonation concept has continued to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;
- THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season within the State of Louisiana. The Notice of Intent attached to and made part of this Resolution is hereby approved.


Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary


Warren Pol
Chairman

July 5, 1990

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION


1990-91 ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS AND SEASON

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish an alligator season; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the emergency regulations for administering all aspects of the 1990 alligator season which are attached and made part of this resolution.


Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary


Warren Pol
Chairman

July 5, 1990

RESOLUTION
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION


ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS

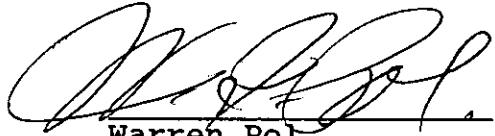
WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish alligator regulations; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The alligator farming program is regulated by the Department through regulations enacted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish alligator regulations for administering all aspects of the alligator program which are attached and made part of this resolution.


Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary


Warren Pol
Chairman

July 5, 1990


Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

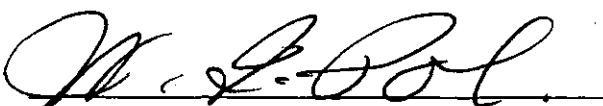
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries in conjunction with Boise Cascade, Kirby Forest Industries, and Quatre Parish wish to maximize wildlife populations and public enjoyment of West Bay Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, all of the above parties responsible for the management of West Bay agree that the current 320 mile road system is greatly in excess of the roads necessary to provide adequate public access and that said excess causes undue disturbance to resident wildlife, and

WHEREAS, this 320 mile road system with 63 entrances onto West Bay inhibits the proper enforcement of wildlife laws and WMA regulations, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission concurs with the aforementioned companies and Department staff in closing certain roads and entrances as indicated on the attached map of West Bay Wildlife Management Area.


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries


Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

A New Management Plan for
West Bay Wildlife Management Area

One of the most important and successful programs of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has been the establishment and development of the wildlife management area system throughout the state. Presently the Department operates and manages 38 wildlife management areas comprising over a million acres.

All areas are presently open to hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation. They represent every habitat type found in the state-marsh, bottomland hardwoods, cypress tupelo swamps, mixed pine hardwoods, cut over pine lands, pure pines and backwater areas. Since the program was initiated in the early 1950's it has grown in popularity and now furnishes a wide variety of activities for the state's outdoor enthusiast.

In years to come, each acre of wildlife management area will have to be put to the best possible use to deliver the maximum potential of the wildlife resources. It is believed that the wildlife management area program will grow in importance for recreational opportunities such as those already provided.

West Bay Wildlife Management Area is located in North Central Allen Parish. State highways and parish roads leading to the area makes West Bay WMA very accessible to the public.

The area is 55,185 acres in size and is entirely privately owned. The lease which is obtained from timber companies (Boise Cascade Corp., Kirby Forest Industries, Inc. and Quatre Parish Lumber Co.) without charge to the state, give the Department the right to manage wildlife on this area.

The terrain is generally flat. Approximately one-third of the area is in a "bay-gall" situation and is poorly drained. The remaining two-thirds has fairly good drainage. The only semi-flowing stream is Mill Creek.

The forest cover types range from pure hardwoods to pure pine plantations. The most common hardwood species are water oak, white oak, and red oak, blackgum, sweetgum, magnolia, hickory, beech, white and red bay. Both slash and loblolly pines are also found.

The understory composition varies with the timber types. Common species of value are youpon, rattan, arrowwood, simlax, deciduous holly, blackberries, dewberries, huckleberries, and numerous annual legumes and grasses.

Game species hunted on the area are squirrels, rabbits, deer, quail, woodcock, and doves. The area offers excellent bow hunting opportunities for deer. The trapping of raccoon, opossum, mink, bobcat, fox and coyote is permitted during trapping season.

Year round camping is permitted on three state maintained camping areas. Non-hunting activities such as bird watching and trail riding is also allowed.

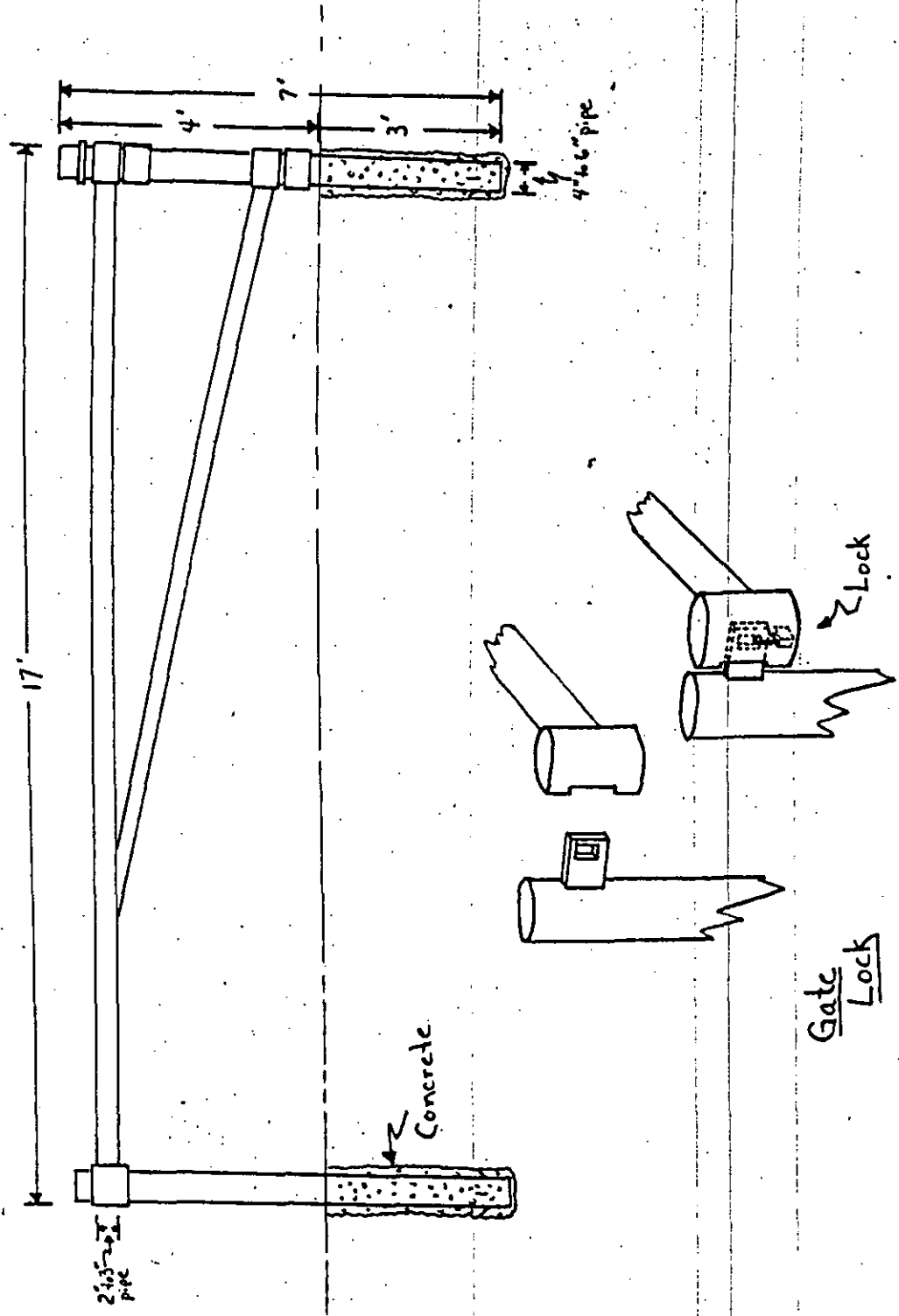
West Bay WMA presently has over 300 miles of roads and 60 points of entrances into the area. To better manage the wildlife within this area the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries feels that it is necessary to reduce the number of roads and entrances and restrict the hunting from roads open to vehicular traffic. This action is important toward improving and maintaining wildlife populations, help in the enforcement of rules and regulations while providing a safety margin for the public utilizing this area.

To accomplish these goals on West Bay WMA the following restrictions will be implemented:

- 1) Installation and maintaining of 53 gates and allow only 7 entrance points into the area.
- 2) Reduce the number of roads for public use from 300 miles to approximately 125 miles. Interior road closures will be maintained with road restriction signs.
- 3) Restrict hunting from roads open to public vehicular traffic (No hunting allowed 100 feet from center line of road)
- 4) Installing and maintaining information booths to inform the public of new regulations and activities occurring on the area.
- 5) Print new maps showing entrance points and roads open to vehicular traffic for public use while on West Bay WMA.

The implementation of these new regulations on West Bay WMA are in conjunction with the landowners and with the public's support, will help in the management of the wildlife resources while providing better recreational opportunities to the outdoorsmen.

Pipe Gate




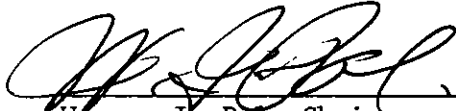
Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports the acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these wildlife resources, and

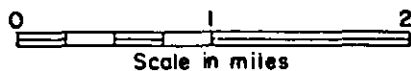
WHEREAS, the Department and the State have been previously authorized funding to acquire 1,799.38 acres in Terrebonne Parish as part of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and 504.03 acres in Bossier Parish as part of Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to take such steps as necessary to complete the acquisition of these tracts of wildlife habitat.


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries
Commission

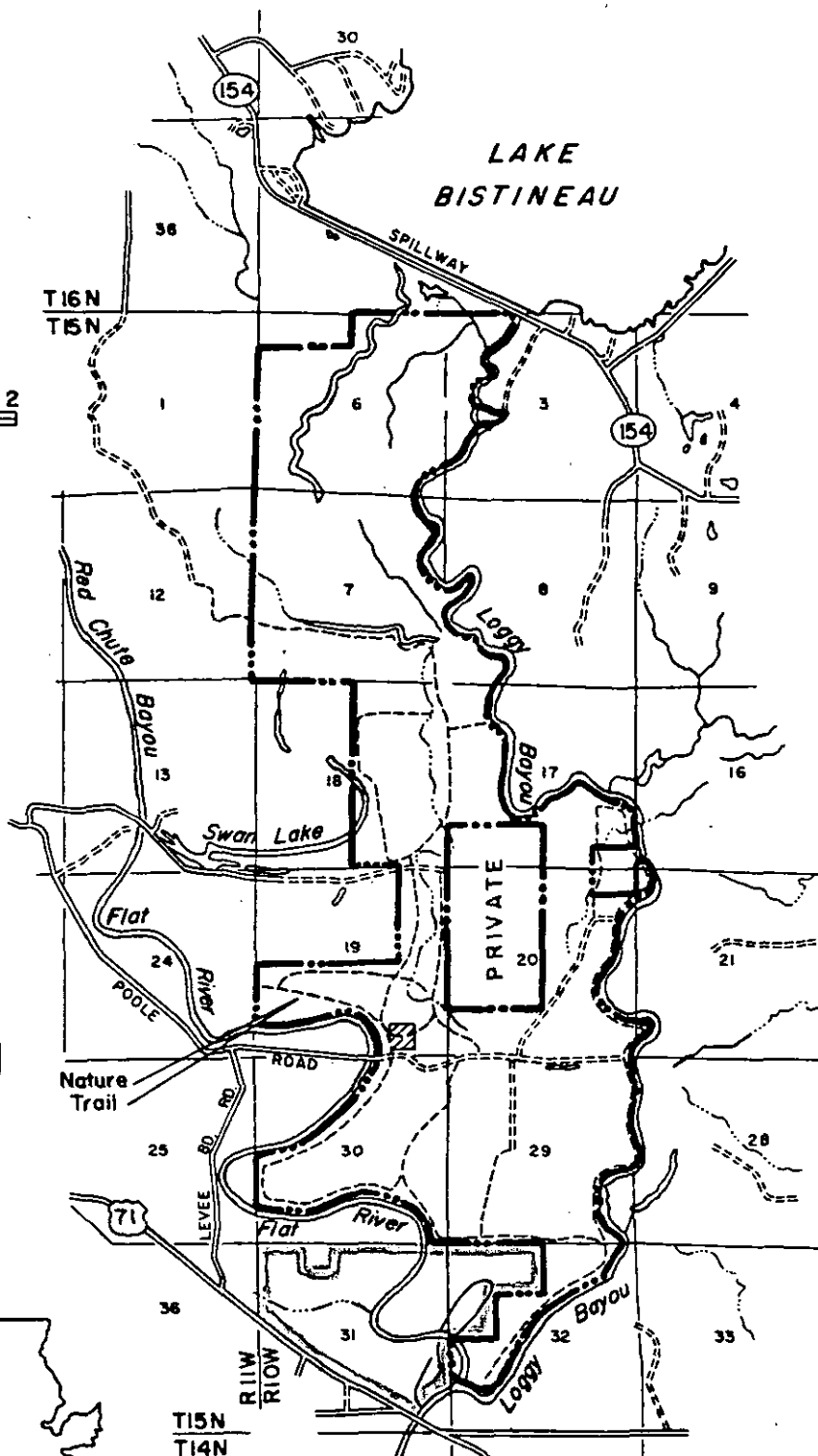
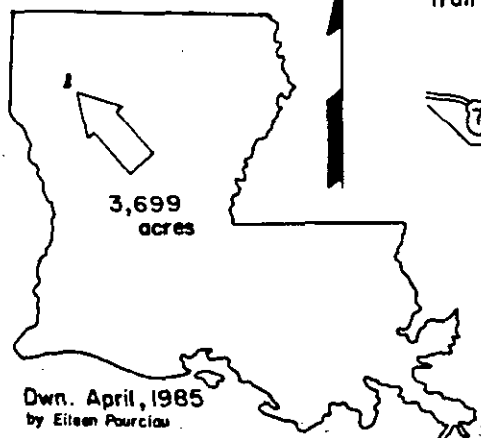

Warren I. Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries

LOGGY BAYOU WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



LEGEND

- Boundary
- == Improved road
- === Unimproved road
- - - Trail
- ~ Stream
- · - Intermittent stream
- ▨ Camping area



Nature Conservancy
504.03 Ac.

[illegible]


Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990


WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports the acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these resources, and

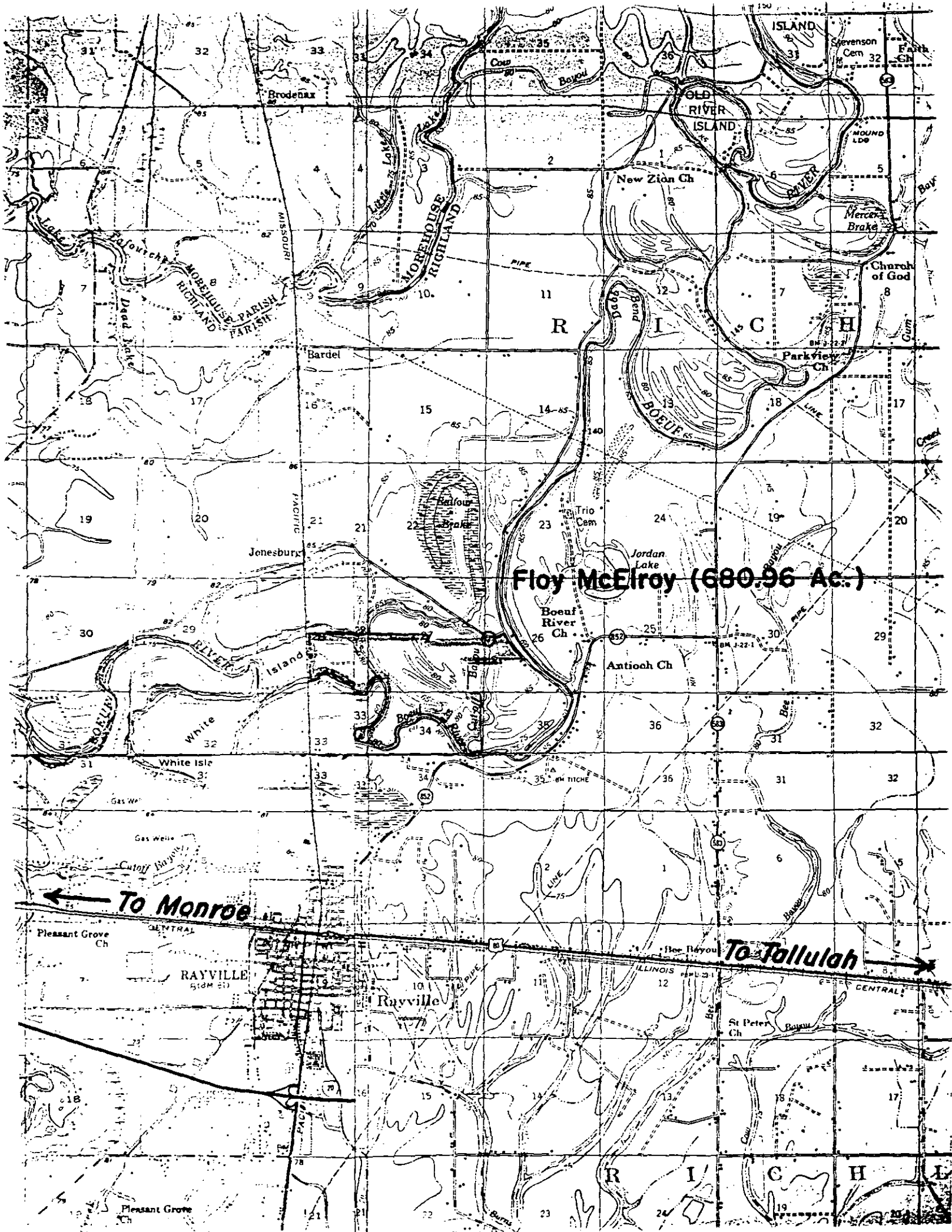
WHEREAS, Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry has offered the donation of 680.96 acres of productive wildlife habitat known as the White Island Plantation in Richland Parish to insure that these acres will be forever managed to benefit the wildlife resources and public of Louisiana, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to accept this donation of property from Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that upon receipt of this generous donation the tract shall be dedicated as the Floy Ward McElroy Wildlife Management Area.


Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife & Fisheries


Warren I. P61, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Commission



DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

**DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION**

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S.49:953(B) and 967(D) of the Administrative Procedures Act, and under the authority of R.S.56:326.1 and 326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that the current emergency regulations governing the harvest of black drum are not consistent with the proposed permanent rules, which are based on the most recent assessment of the status of the black drum populations in Louisiana, and accordingly adopts the following rule:

Effective at 12:00 noon on July 9, 1990, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby rescinds the current size limits and quotas for black drum which were implemented by emergency rule on February 9, 1990 and establishes a minimum size limit of 16 inches total length for the taking and possession of black drum within and without Louisiana waters. This rule shall remain in effect until September 1, 1990.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. I. Pol', is written over the printed name and title.

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
July 5-6, 1990

- ✓ 1. Roll Call
- 7-5 ✓ 2. Approval of Minutes of June 7-8, 1990
- ✓ 3. Review of Outside Contracts - Warren Pol
- 7-6 ✓ 4. Road Closure, West Bay WMA - Tommy Prickett (*Action Friday*)
- 7-5 ✓ 5. Set Dates for Migratory Bird Seasons - Tommy Prickett
- ✓ 6. Announce 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition - Dave Morrison *Nov. 1, 1990*
- 7-5 ✓ 7. Land Acquisition - Tommy Prickett
- ✓ 8. 1990 Turkey Season Results and Drawing for Guns - Dave Morrison
- 7-5 ✓ 9. Notice of Intent, Fur Harvest Season - Johnnie Tarver
- 7-5 ✓ 10. Notice of Intent, Alligator Harvest Program - Johnnie Tarver
- 7-5 ✓ 11. Emergency Declaration, Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest - Johnnie Tarver
- 7-5 12. ~~Notice of Intent~~ *Declaration of Emergency*, Opening of Fall Shrimp Season - Phil Bowman *Mega Bore*
- 7-5 ✓ 13. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent, Jewfish Closure - Jerry Clark
- ✓ 14. Update on Case Disposition Reports from District Attorneys - Kell McInnis (*Friday*)
- ✓ 15. Monthly Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
- ✓ 16. Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework - Virginia Van Sickle
- ✓ 17. Secretary's Report to the Commission - Virginia Van Sickle (*Friday*)
18. Set October Meeting Dates (*Friday*)

OTHER BUSINESS:

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
July 5-6, 1990

- I-A- 0 1. Roll Call ✓
2. Approval of Minutes of June 7-8, 1990 ✓
3. Review of Outside Contracts - Warren Pol ✓
- I-A- 222 4. Road Closure, West Bay WMA - Tommy Prickett
~~Recorder Failure~~
- I-A- 228 5. Set Dates for Migratory Bird Seasons -- Tommy Prickett ✓
- I-A- 679 6. Announce 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition - Dave Morrison
II-A- 005
- IIA- 112 7. Land Acquisition - Tommy Prickett
IIa- 186 → 7a. Denation
- IIA- 063 8. 1990 Turkey Season Results and Drawing for Guns - Dave Morrison
- IIA- 205 9. Notice of Intent, Fur Harvest Season - Johnnie Tarver
- IIA- 289 10. Notice of Intent, Alligator Harvest Program - Johnnie Tarver
11. Emergency Declaration, Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest - Johnnie Tarver
- IIA- 377 12. Notice of Intent, Opening of Fall Shrimp Season - Phil Bowman
- IIA- 515 → 13. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent, Jewfish Closure - Jerry Clark
~~MEGA Bora Report~~
~~512~~
626
14. Update on Case Disposition Reports from District Attorneys - Kell McInnis
- Ib- 008 15. Monthly Law Enforcement Report -- ~~Winton Vidrine~~ ^{Charlie Clark}
- Ib- 141 16. Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework - Virginia Van Sickle
also Jerry Clark Shrimp task force issue
17. Secretary's Report to the Commission - Virginia Van Sickle
18. Set October Meeting Dates

OWNER BUSINESS:

- IIb- 008 → Jerry Clark — personal privileges
- “ “ — Resolution

AGENDA
LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA
July 5-6, 1990

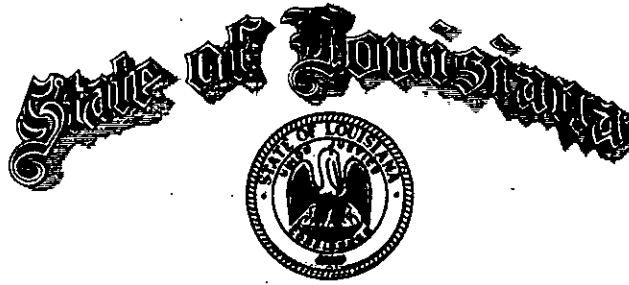
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13. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent, Jewfish Closure - Jerry Clark
- III A-54 14. Update on Case Disposition Reports from District Attorneys - Kell McInnis
15. Monthly Law Enforcement Report - Winton Vidrine
- III A-133 16. Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework - Virginia Van Sickle
- III A-268 17. Secretary's Report to the Commission - Virginia Van Sickle
- III B-~10 18. Set October Meeting Dates

OTHER BUSINESS:

OCT 4, 5

III B-~30 — Emergency Ruling Reducing min. size limit on

III B-59 — Comments on scarcity of speckled Trout requested by W. Pol



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

July 2, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

FROM: Sharyn Bateman *SB*

RE: Emergency Rules and Notices of Intent to be
Presented at July Commission Meeting

There will be four (2) emergency rules and four (4) notices of intent that will be brought before the Commission at the July meeting. These are:

1. Jewfish Closure - Emergency Rule
2. Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest - Emergency Rule
3. Fur Harvest Season - Notice of Intent
4. Fall Shrimp Season - Notice of Intent
5. Alligator Harvest Program - Notice of Intent
6. Jewfish Closure - Notice of Intent

If you should have any questions concerning these let me know.

sb

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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WHEREAS, all of the above parties responsible for the management of West Bay agree that the current 320 mile road system is greatly in excess of the roads necessary to provide adequate public access and that said excess causes undue disturbance to resident wildlife, and

WHEREAS, this 320 mile road system with 63 entrances onto West Bay inhibits the proper enforcement of wildlife laws and WMA regulations, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission concurs with the aforementioned companies and Department staff in closing certain roads and entrances as indicated on the attached map of West Bay Wildlife Management Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. of Wildlife and Fisheries

Warren I. Pol, Chairman
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West Bay Wildlife Management Area

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In years to come, each acre of wildlife management area will have to be put to the best possible use to deliver the maximum potential of the wildlife resources. It is believed that the wildlife management area program will grow in importance for recreational opportunities such as those already provided.

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The area is 55,185 acres in size and is entirely privately owned. The lease which is obtained from timber companies (Boise Cascade Corp., Kirby Forest Industries, Inc. and Quatre Parish Lumber Co.) without charge to the state, give the Department the right to manage wildlife on this area.

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The forest cover types range from pure hardwoods to pure pine plantations. The most common hardwood species are water oak, white oak, and red oak, blackgum, sweetgum, magnolia, hickory, beech, white and red bay. Both slash and loblolly pines are also found.

The understory composition varies with the timber types. Common species of value are youpon, rattan, arrowwood, simlax, deciduous holly, blackberries, dewberries, huckleberries, and numerous annual legumes and grasses.

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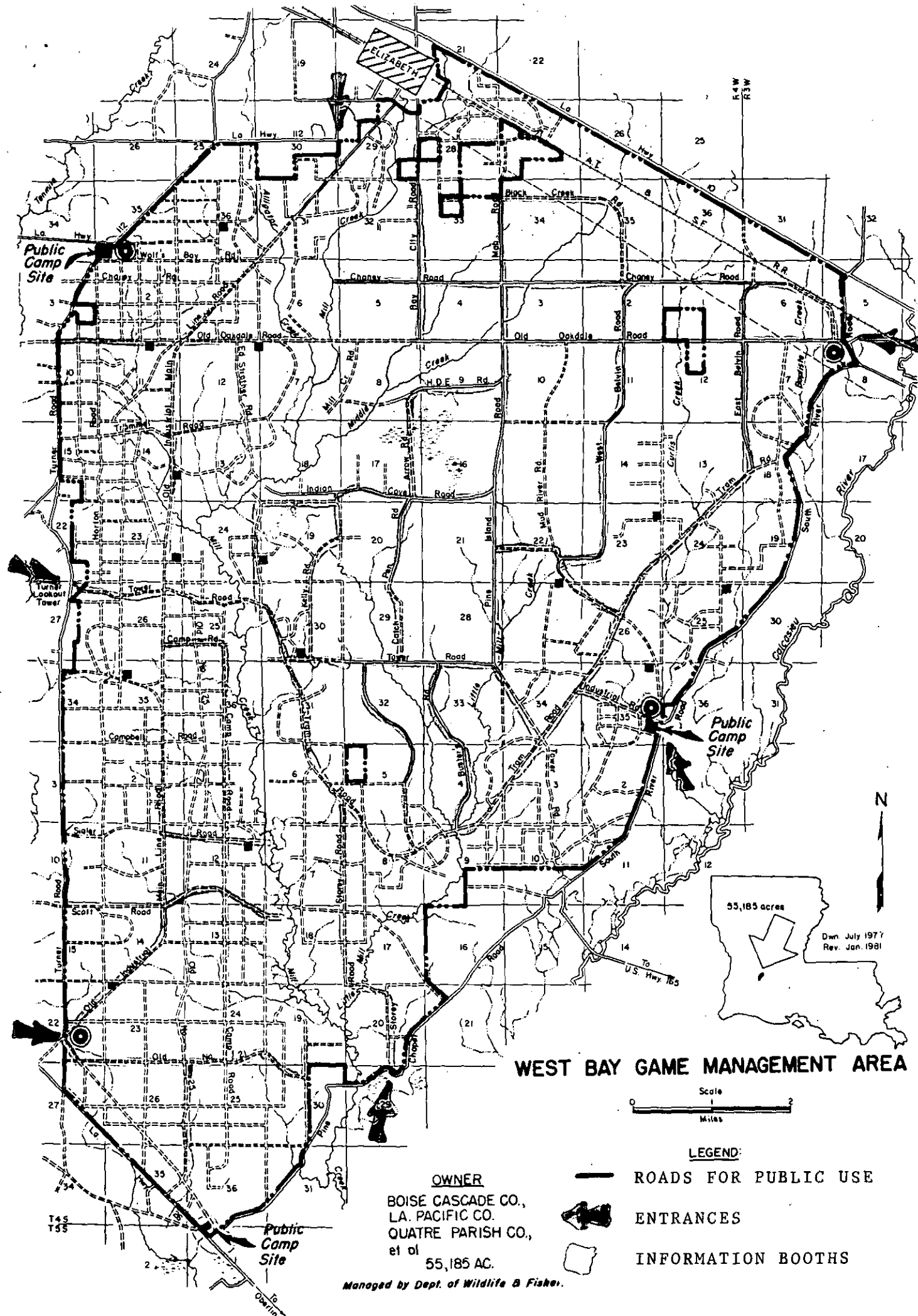
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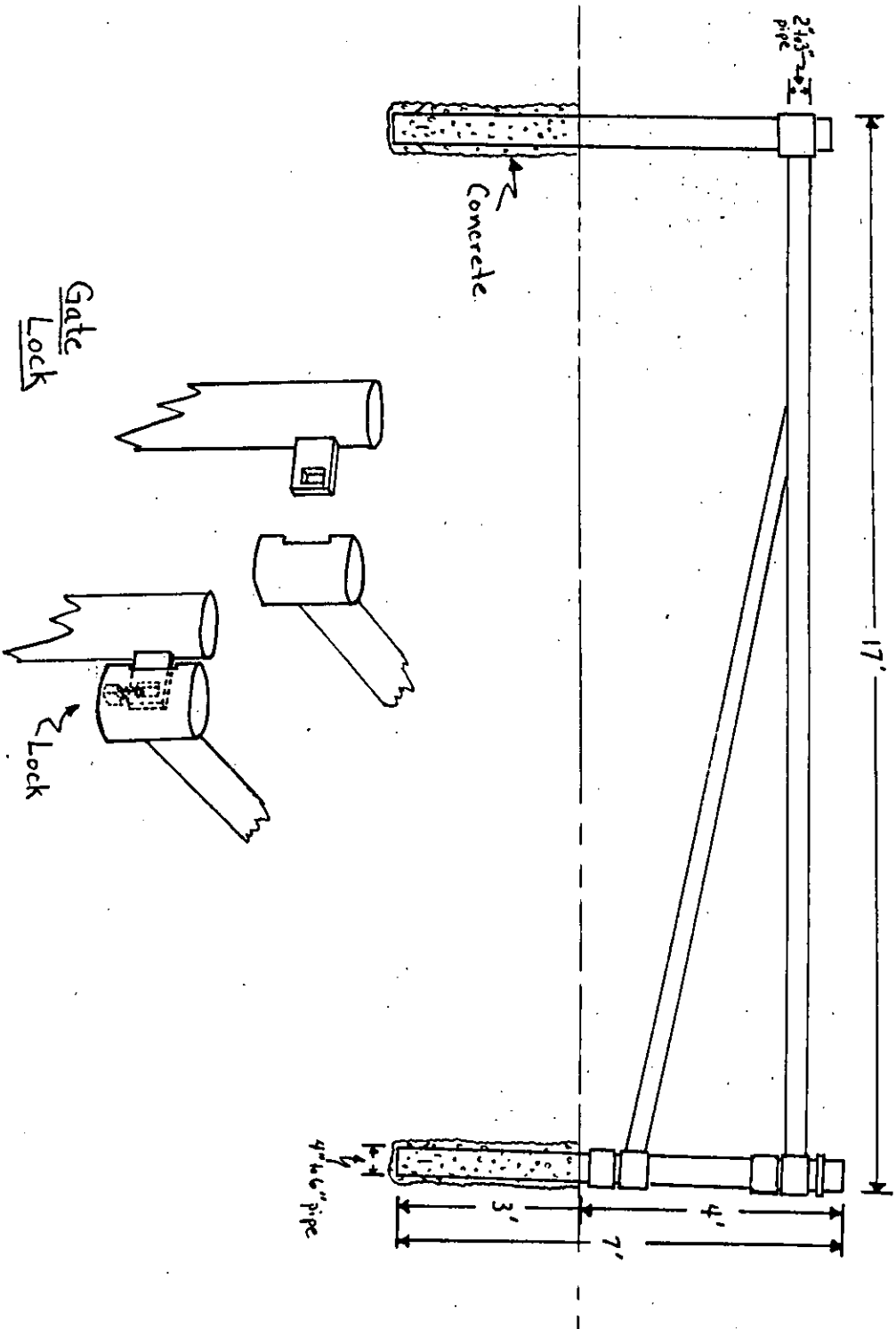
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Pipe Gate



#4

Resolution
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
July 5-6, 1990

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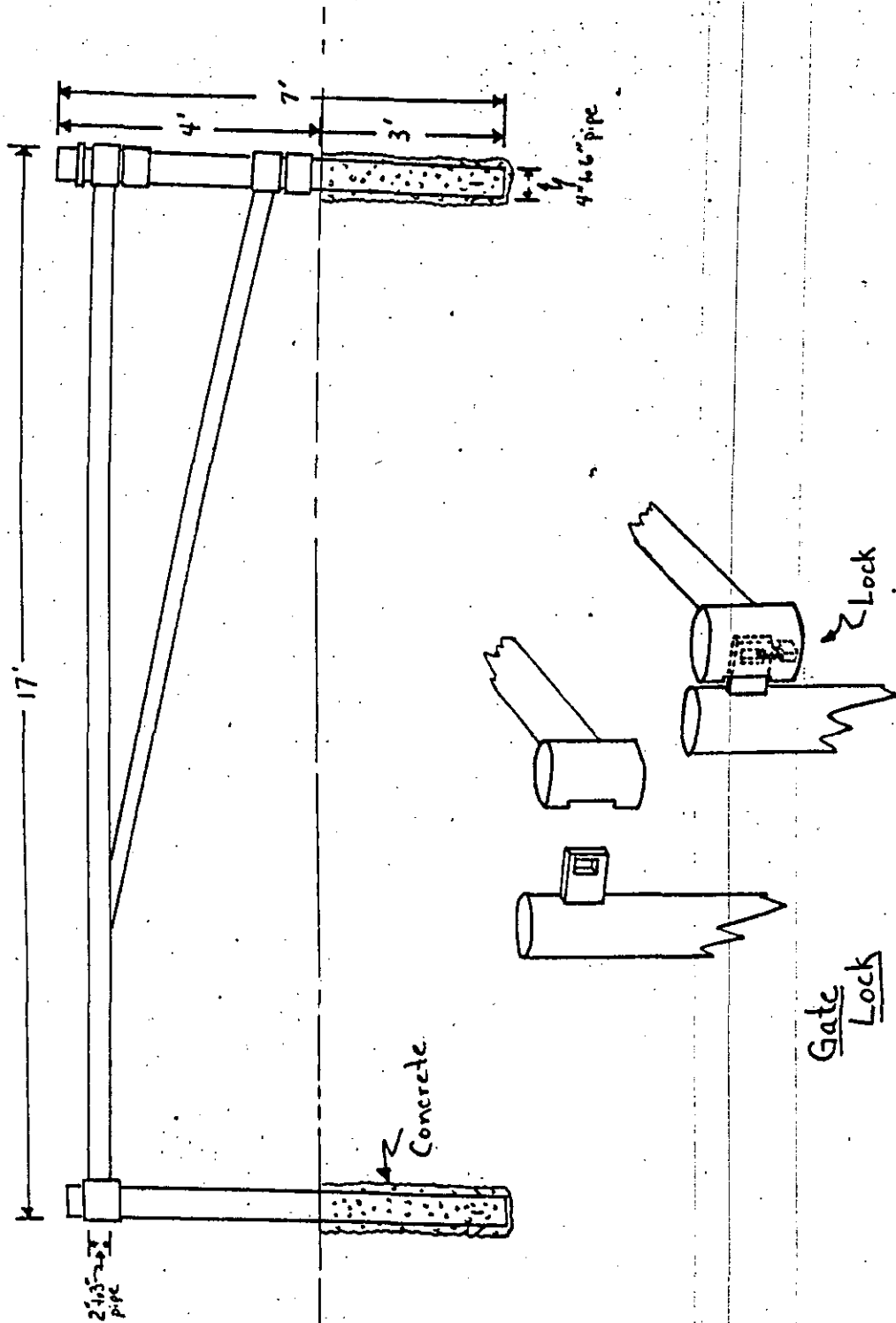
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Pipe Gate



#3

Recommendations for 1990-91 Migratory Season Dates
Prepared by Game Division

<u>Doves:</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>
	Sept. 1-9	9 days	12
	Oct. 13 - Nov. 11	30 days	12
	Dec. 8 - Jan. 7	31 days	12
		<u>70 Total</u>	

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, October 13-14, and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12:00 Noon to sunset.

<u>Rails:</u>	Nov. 17 - Jan. 20	65 days	15
<u>Gallinules:</u>	Nov. 17 - Jan. 20	65 days	15
<u>Woodcock:</u>	Dec. 1 - Feb. 3	65 days	5
<u>Snipe:</u>	Nov. 10 - Feb. 24	107 days	8

Shooting Hours: (rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe): 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

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Shooting Hours: (rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe): 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

Your participation in the following survey is vital to the future of duck, goose, and dove hunting in the State of Louisiana.

The purpose of this questionnaire is to obtain information on migratory gamebird harvests, hunter activity, and the attitudes of hunters concerning various hunting regulations and other issues. This data will help to better understand the status of our duck, goose, and dove populations. It is needed to monitor these populations to maintain a desirable level of hunter interest and success, and to provide maximum opportunities to all concerned sportsmen.

Your participation in this study is voluntary, yet it could very well determine the future of all migratory bird hunting in Louisiana.

Please take a few minutes and fill out this questionnaire to the best of your ability, your response is urgently needed.

Thanks' for your cooperation.

Yours for better hunting.

Sincerely,

The Acadiana Sportsmen's League

"The results of this study will be made available to the U.S. Department of the Interior, and to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries."

MAIL TO:

A. S. L.
Box 17

Crowley, LA. 70526

LOUISIANA MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING QUESTIONNAIRE

General Information

A. Name: _____
Address: _____
Age: _____

B. Occupation: _____

C. Educational Background:

Elementary: _____
High School: _____
College: _____
College+: _____
Vocational: _____
Training: _____

D. Income Level:

\$0-10,000: _____
10,000-20,000: _____
20,000-50,000: _____
50,000+: _____

E. Are you one of the following? (which type of hunter...)

Landowner: _____
Lease Holder: _____
Commercial: _____
Public/Refuge: _____
Freelance: _____

F. If you are a member of any conservation or outdoor organizations, please list them below.

LOUISIANA MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING QUESTIONNAIRE

1. What is your hunting preference?
(Please list in order: 1, 2, 3...)

Duck/Coot: _____
Goose: _____
Dove: _____

2. Number of days hunted?

Duck: _____
Goose: _____
Dove: _____

3. Would you prefer a later duck season? (To be allowed to run as late into January as permitted by Federal frameworks.)

Yes: _____ No: _____

4. Would you prefer the current split-segment season or a continuous season for duck/goose hunting in future years?

Split-segment: _____
Continuous: _____

5. Which specie(s) of duck(s) comprise the major portion of your bag?

6. Which specie(s) of geese comprise the major portion of your bag?

7. Do you hunt during the special September Teal Season?

Yes: _____ No: _____

8. Do you think this season should be continued?

Yes: _____ No: _____

9. On which of the following areas do you hunt?

Marsh: _____ Rivers/Bayous: _____
Grainfields: _____ Other: _____

10. Which parish(es) of the State do you primarily hunt waterfowl in?

11. Do you hunt waterfowl outside of the State of Louisiana?

Yes: _____ No: _____

12. Which state(s)?

13. How would you compare that hunting to the hunting in Louisiana?

14. Would you prefer that the duck and goose seasons have separate opening dates?

Yes: _____ No: _____

15. Would you prefer reducing the bag limits and season lengths in order to lower the kill and increase the survival rate of our waterfowl resources?

Yes: _____ No: _____

16. Would you favor limiting the amount of shotshells that each hunter could possess while waterfowl hunting?

Yes: _____ No: _____

17. Would you favor limiting the shotsize to no larger than No. BB shot?

Yes: _____ No: _____

18. Have you ever used steel shotshells for waterfowl hunting?

Yes: _____ No: _____

19. How would you rate the effectiveness of steel shotshells in comparison to that of lead shotshells.

More effective: _____
Equally effective: _____
Less effective: _____

20. Do you think that lead-poisoning is a serious threat to our waterfowl populations?

Yes: _____ No: _____

21. If you use steelshot for waterfowl hunting, are they readily available in your area?

Yes: _____ No: _____

22. Are they obtained from

Sporting goods outlets: _____

Discount stores: _____

Hardware stores: _____

Other: _____

23. Do you find the cost(s) of steel shotshells to be prohibitive?

Yes: _____ No: _____

24. Do you approve of the work being conducted by Ducks Unlimited?

Yes: _____ No: _____

25. Do you consider wildlife violation will endanger the continuation of some hunting seasons?

Yes: _____ No: _____

26. Which hunting violations do you consider to be the most serious in your area?

Overlimit: _____

Lateshooting: _____

(afterhours) _____

Baiting: _____

Other: _____

27. Would you consider the implementation of more stringent penalties for wildlife violations?

Yes: _____ No: _____

28. Would you consider mandatory jail sentences for some wildlife violations?

Yes: _____ No: _____

29. Do you approve of the Operation Game Thief Program?

Yes: _____ No: _____

30. Would you favor an increase in the cost of the Duck Stamp?

Yes: _____ No: _____

31. Would you favor the use of a Waterfowl Hunting Stamp in Louisiana?

Yes: _____ No: _____

32. Do you think that the State should obtain more public areas for waterfowl hunting in Louisiana?

Yes: _____ No: _____

33. Do you think that more areas (including privately-owned land) should be set aside for waterfowl management in the State?

Yes: _____ No: _____

34. In the area that you hunt, do you think that increased hunting pressure has affected the quality of your hunting?

Yes: _____ No: _____

35. Do you think that the practice of "goose crawling" should be prohibited in the State?

Yes: _____ No: _____

36. Do you prefer the afternoon-only or all-day practice for dove hunting in Louisiana?

Afternoon-only: _____

All-day: _____

37. Which of the following programs do you prefer for dove hunting in the State?

60 days - 15 bird limit: _____

70 days - 12 bird limit: _____

38. Do you approve of the current North-South Boundary of Interstate-10 for dove hunting?

Yes: _____ No: _____

39. Comments.

Please include any comments or suggestions concerning Louisiana migratory bird hunting on a separate sheet.



Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Inc.

P.O. BOX 16089 LSU
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70893
504/344-6707

July 5, 1990

Mr. Bert Jones, Member
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
P. O. Box 19800
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898-9000

Dear Mr. Jones:

The enclosed resolution states the support of the Louisiana Wildlife Federation for restricting dove hunting to afternoon-only hours. The position was adopted at our 1990 annual meeting through a time-honored deliberative, democratic process that has become the hallmark of Federation policy development. The resolution was unanimously supported by the convention delegates representing thousands of sportsmen from throughout the state.

The Federation is well aware that allowing the hunting of doves from sunrise to sunset is not likely to have any more impact on the dove population than afternoon-only hunting. However, we feel it does encourage double limits and other problems referenced in the resolution. Most importantly, it is our feeling that the majority of dove hunters prefer to hunt during the afternoon rather than morning hours and they are placed at a disadvantage if dove fields have been hunted in the morning as well.

We urge you to reestablish the traditional afternoon-only dove hunting hours for the 1990-91 dove hunting season.

Thank you for your attention and favorable consideration of this request.

Yours in conservation,

Larry Leger
President

LL:sp
Enclosure



Louisiana Wildlife Federation, Inc.

P.O. BOX 16089 LSU
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70893
504/344-6707

RESOLUTION NO. 31A

SUBJECT: AFTERNOON-ONLY DOVE HUNTING

WHEREAS, the practice of mourning dove hunting over the past half century has been limited to afternoon only, except for the last several years, and

WHEREAS, enforcement problems occur with the all-day hunting, including over bag limit, and

WHEREAS, the short season and sparse bag limits allowed in today's duck hunting have caused the pressure in many areas to shift directly to the mourning dove, and

WHEREAS, early in the dove season, during harvest time, the landowner interested in having an afternoon dove hunt for himself and his family is finding it extremely difficult to maintain an area where birds are concentrated enough to hunt while trying to get some work done in the morning hours, and

WHEREAS, the problem with over limit is compounded by the fact that some hunters are going afield in the morning and afternoon and achieving limits of 12 birds on both hunts; this "double-dipping" needs to be eliminated, and

WHEREAS, with afternoon-only dove hunting the game agents will be able to devote their attention to other enforcement activities in addition to enforcing dove hunting regulations.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Louisiana Wildlife Federation supports a change in the state dove-hunting regulations to limit the taking of mourning doves to the hours of 12-noon until official sunset during each segment of the dove hunting season.

Adopted by the Louisiana Wildlife Federation in convention assembled,
4 March 1990 in Gonzales, LA.

A PROPOSAL FOR

A STRUCTURED FACILITATION PROCESS TO DEVELOP A FIVE-YEAR DEER HUNTING SEASON PROPOSAL

July 1990

GOAL

To develop a five-year deer hunting season proposal to be submitted to the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission that is acceptable to a majority of both dog hunters and still hunters.

REASONS FOR INSTITUTING PROCESS

1. To attempt to get the Commission and Department out of the middle of resource allocation issues. The Commission and Department are mandated by the constitution to take an advocacy stance on issues of biology. Additionally, the Commission and Department have to take stands on issues of economics. However, many of our most heated controversies concern issues of resource allocation. On these issues, it would be to the benefit of the Commission, the Department and the user groups involved to institute a process that would allow competing user groups the opportunity to reach a consensus among themselves.

2. To work toward more stabilized regulations.

3. To educate those involved in the process. Generally, individuals who involve themselves in this or other such processes (public hearings, etc.) are the most active and influential members of the group. If you can educate these people and get them to buy into the plan, then they will carry the message to their peers.

DEPARTMENT ROLE

The major role of the Department will be that of facilitator. The Department will take an advocacy stance on important biological issues, but will not have a vote on the Advisory Group during formation of the actual season proposal and will take a neutral facilitator stance during the structured facilitation process.

The Department will also gather and disseminate information and formulate the biological framework that the Advisory Group must work within when coming up with a proposal and define the role of the Advisory Group and public. It will be very clear from the beginning that the Commission is responsible for setting seasons and that the role of this process is to develop a proposal to make to the Commission.

DESCRIPTION OF STRUCTURED FACILITATION PROCESS

Formation of Advisory Group

The Advisory Group will consist of representatives of all user groups. It is this group that will develop the final proposal to be presented to the Commission.

As a practical matter, the size of the group must be limited. An Advisory Group of 12 people would be ideal. This would allow for three (3) still hunters, three (3) dog hunters, two (2) members of the Commission, two (2) members of the Legislature (one from each house) and two (2) representatives of landowners.

The Legislative and Commission representatives will be chosen by those respective bodies. The still hunter, dog hunter and landowner representatives will be chosen by the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries with the concurrence of the Commission and will represent all geographic regions.

Identify Data Needs — Advisory Group

The Advisory Group will then identify data necessary to make a rational, informed decision. This will include existing habitat, biological and constituent data and other data as needed.

If the group decides additional data is needed that requires a constituent survey to obtain, then the Advisory Group will participate in development of the survey instrument and will select the survey methodology to be employed.

This should occur at a meeting sometime in the fall.

Compile and Collect Data — Department Technical Staff

Data needs identified by the advisory group will be collected and compiled by technical staff within the Department.

Data collection should be completed in January 1.

Statewide Interactive Workshops (10-15)

A series of ten statewide interactive workshops will be scheduled. Participation in these workshops will be encouraged by allowing everyone who participates to have a vote on the final proposal.

The workshops will be held over a two-week period. Individuals will be limited to participating in only one workshop and each workshop will be limited to the first 1,000 people. Should more than 1,000 desire to participate, another workshop will be scheduled in that locale.

The workshops are designed to last approximately two hours and are highly structured and managed.

Violation of workshop rules or failure to participate in the entire process will disqualify an individual as a voting participant.

Participants are registered by user group as they arrive. They are kept together during the first hour of the workshop. During this time, they are:

- Informed of the process and what is expected of them.
- Familiarized with the rules governing their participation in the process.
- Presented (visually and in writing) with the data identified as needed by the Advisory Group.

During the second hour, participants are broken randomly into small groups of no more than 50 people and with the aid of a trained facilitator accomplish the following tasks:

- Identify the issues.
- Identify possible solutions.

Finally, the participants are allowed to vote on what they think are the most important issues and best solutions.

The facilitated workshops will be held in late January.

Compile and Distribute Workshop Data — Department Technical Staff

The data obtained in the interactive workshops is then compiled and summarized by Department staff and distributed to all workshop participants. Participants will be allowed time to comment to members of the Advisory Group.

Develop Season Recommendations/Alternatives — Advisory Group

After receiving comments from workshop participants, the advisory group will, by consensus, develop a five-year season proposal or alternatives to be presented to workshop participants for a vote.

A proposal should be developed by late February.

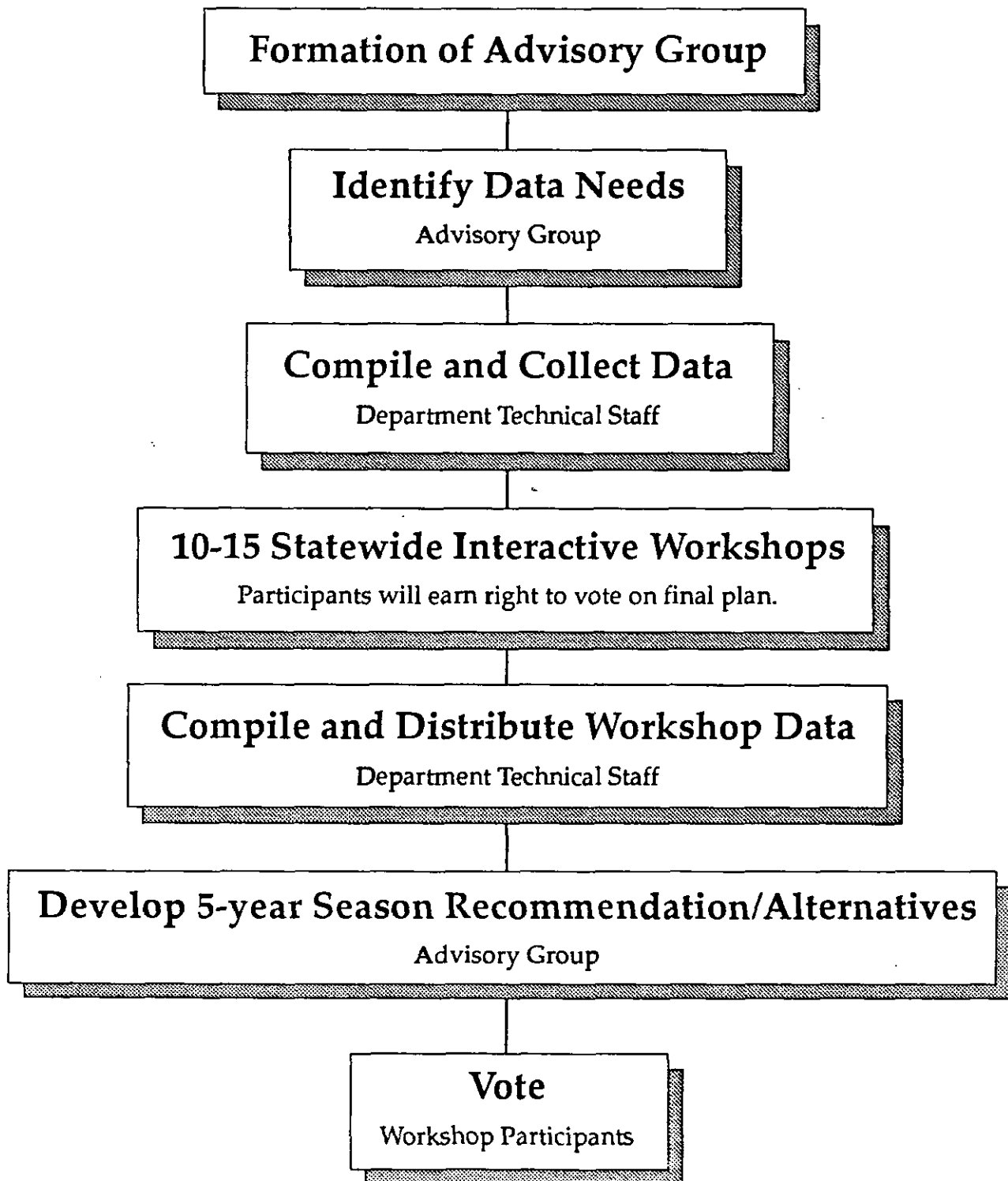
Participant Vote

Ballots will be mailed by Department staff to all workshop participants with a specific time period to receive responses.

All responses will be tabulated by constituency group (still hunter and dog hunter) and for a season recommendation to be approved and presented to the Commission, it must receive a majority of all votes cast by each constituency group.

Results will be tabulated by mid March.

Structured Facilitation Process





TEXAS
PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744 • 512-389-4800

CHARLES D. TRAVIS
Executive Director

COMMISSIONERS

CHUCK NASH
Chairman, San Marcos
GEORGE C. "TIM" HIXON
Vice-Chairman
San Antonio

BOB ARMSTRONG
Austin

LEE M. BASS
Ft. Worth

HENRY C. BECK, III
Dallas

DELO H. CASPARY
Rockport

JOHN WILSON KELSEY
Houston

BEATRICE CARR PICKENS
Amarillo

A.R. (TONY) SANCHEZ, JR.
Laredo

July 5, 1990

To: Virginia Van Sickle
From: Charles D. Travis
Subject: Agenda for Joint Commission Meeting

Attached is a draft agenda for the Joint Meeting at San Marcos, Texas. Please fax any changes you wish to make and agenda items you would like to add.


Charles D. Travis

CDT:frh

62-23



**TEXAS
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4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744 • 512-389-4800

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Laredo

AGENDA

**Joint Commission Meeting
Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Thursday, 3:00 p.m.
July 19, 1990
San Marcos, Texas

1. Discussion Of Fish And Wildlife Concerns Common To The Two States Such As:
 - a. Size and bag limits of fish
 - b. Consistant fishing regulations in waters bordering the two states
 - c. Red snapper, shrimp, and shark regulations
 - d. Effect on Dec 89 Fg or Tx.
2. Cooperative Wildlife Programs Speltz+
3. Administrative Issues Such As Licenses
4. Questions From The Public

Severe Rivers Report
Under LWRP

TASK
FD/2C/5

ENROLLED

Regular Session, 1990

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 25

BY REPRESENTATIVE ROACH

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to change by emergency rule the minimum legal size for the commercial taking of black drum from eighteen to sixteen inches total length.

WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission by emergency rule has set the minimum legal size for the commercial taking of black drum at eighteen inches total length; and

WHEREAS, this emergency rule will expire on September 1, 1990; and

WHEREAS, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission has adopted permanent rules and regulations establishing size limits for harvesting of black drum, including a sixteen inch minimum total length limit for the commercial taking of black drum which will become effective on September 1, 1990; and

WHEREAS, these permanent rules and regulations are based on sound biological data; and

WHEREAS, this eighteen-inch minimum size limit significantly increases the man-hours expended by fishermen to reach the emergency commercial quota established for black drum; and

WHEREAS, increased man-hours expended by these fishermen result in increased expenses and, in particular, lost income for commercial fishermen.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to change by emergency rule the minimum legal size for the commercial taking of black drum from eighteen to sixteen inches total length.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the chairman of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Other
Business*

ENROLLED

Regular Session, 1990

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BY REPRESENTATIVE ROACH

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

JULY, 1990

CASE REPORT

ENFORCEMENT CASE REPORT-JUNE 1990

REGION 1

TOTAL CASES-160

ENFORCEMENT-160

OTHER - 0

84-Boating

24-Angling W/O A License

38-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

2-Sell And/Or Purchase Game Fish

5-Buying And/Or Selling Wild Quadrupeds Or Wild Birds (Except Deer)

1-Buying Or Selling Deer Or Meat

2-Possession Of Live Alligators W/O Permit

2-Driving While Intoxicated

1-Littering

CONFISCATIONS:

One-3-inch gill net, one-2 foot alligator (released in wild)

REGION 2

TOTAL CASES-121

ENFORCEMENT-121

OTHER - 0

31-Boating

6-Angling W/O A License

23-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Theft Of Pond Raised Fish

1-Fail To Comply W/Permit Req

7-Buying And/Or Selling Wild Quadrupeds Or Wild Birds (Except Deer)

11-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way

11-Buying And/Or Selling MGB ✓

Page (2)

REGION 2 CONT'D.

11-Driving While Intoxicated

11-Littering

7-Other Than Wildlife And Fisheries

1-Operate ATV Vehicle On Public Road

CONFISCATIONS:

None

REGION 3

TOTAL CASES-156

ENFORCEMENT-149

OTHER - 7

70-Boating

56-Angling W/O A License

6-Fish Without Resident Pole License

2-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

4-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

2-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

1-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

2-Hunting Ducks Or Geese Without Federal Stamp

2-Using Lead Shot In Area Designated As Steel Shot Only

1-Possession Of Illegal Type Firearm

10-Criminal Trespass

CONFISCATIONS:

1-25 H.P. Johnson outboard, 1 25 H.P. Mercury outboard, 1-100 foot gill net, 1-150 foot 3 inch monofilament gill, 1-150 foot monofilament 3 inch gill net, 1 hoop net, 1 slat trap, 2-150 foot 4 inch trammel net, 1 red carp, 1 pike, 3 garfish, 12 bream, 1 black bass, 54 undersize catfish, 2 blue cat.

Page (3)

REGION 4

TOTAL CASES-105

ENFORCEMENT-103

OTHER - 2

33-Boating

13-Angling W/O A License

13-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Not Abiding By Commission Rules And Regulations

1-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

1-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

2-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

1-Use Lead Nets In Other Than Overflow Regions

1-Use Illegal Mesh Nets

6-Sell And Or Purchase Game Fish

2-Blocking Passage Of Fish

20-Buying And/Or Selling Wild Quadrapeds Or Wild Birds

1-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way

5-Buying Or Selling Deer Or Meat

1-Hunt Raccoons Or Opossums Illegally

1-Shipping Alligators Or Skins Out-Of-State Illegally

1-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

1-Littering

CONFISCATIONS:

2 paddlefish, 1-four foot alligator hide, 10 lbs. alligator meat, 20 hoop nets with lead, 284 yards of 2 inch gill net.

Page (4)

REGION V

TOTAL CASES-295

ENFORCEMENT-257

OTHER - 38

168-Boating

46-Angling W/O A License

5-Fish Without Resident Pole License

4-Angling W/O Saltwater License

1-Take Game Fish Illegally

1-Fail To Have Fish Intact (Saltwater)

1-Take Undersize Black Bass

3-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

5-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

4-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

3-Possess Exotic Fish

3-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

1-Fail To Have Commercial Fish Intact

3-Use Oversize Trawls

2-Possess Firearm While Frogging

5-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

19-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

17-Littering

2-Possess/Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish

3-Violation Of Marine Mammal Act

Page (5)

REGION 5 CONT'D.

CONFISCATIONS:

2 bass, 35 dozen of crabs, 42 grass carp, 275 lbs. of shrimp, 4 trawls, 3 black drum, 1 alligator.

REGION 6

TOTAL CASES-195

ENFORCEMENT-191

OTHER - 4

170-Boating

16-Angling W/O A License

4-Fish Without Resident Pole License

1-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

CONFISCATIONS:

5 crab traps, one Louisiana Basic Resident Fishing License, one Louisiana Resident Saltwater Fishing License, one 15 HP Evinrude outboard motor.

REGION 7

TOTAL CASES-342

ENFORCEMENT-342

OTHER - 0

183-Boating

83-Angling W/O A License

29-Fish Without Resident Pole License

3-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

1-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

3-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

Page (6)

REGION 7 CONT'D.

- 2-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License
- 4-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License
- 1-Leave Nets Unattended
- 2-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish
- 1-Sell And/Or Purchase Game Fish
- 1-Destroy Legal Crab Traps Or Removing Contents
- 1-Sell Minnows W/O Non. Res. Dealers License
- 3-Fail To Comply With Closure Order
- 3-Failure To Fill Out Oyster Tags Correctly
- 1-Hunting W/O Resident License
- 1-Poss. Wild Birds Or Wild Quadrupeds W/O A License
- 1-Hunt Or Discharge Firearm From Public Road Or Road Right-Of-Way
- 1-Hunt Or Take Deer Or Bear Illegal Hours
- 2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations (Commission Regulations)
- 2-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season
- 1-Fail To Comply W/Alligator Parts Records Required
- 1-Aggravated Assault On An Officer
- 2-Criminal Trespass
- 2-Illegal Possession Of Drugs Or Marijuana
- 2-Driving While Intoxicated
- 3-Littering

CONFISCATIONS:

2 bags of marijuana, 1 gun.

Page (7)

REGION 8

TOTAL CASES-322

ENFORCEMENT-225

OTHER - 97

81-Boating

1-Allow Another To Use Recreational License

41-Angling W/O A License

2-Fish Without Resident Pole License

4-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

18-Angling W/O Saltwater License

1-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

3-Take Or Possess Undersized Spotted Sea Trout

9-Fail To Have Commercial License In Possession

9-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

15-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

13-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

5-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

2-Blocking Passage Of Fish

1-Fail To Mark Crab Containers

4-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

1-Failure To Mark/Tag Nets

24-Trawling In Closed Season (Inside Waters)

36-Trawling Inside Waters W/Oversized Double Rigs (Over 25')

1-Use Oversize Trawls

4-Take Shrimp Illegal Gear

3-Use Oversize Butterfly Nets

Page (8)

REGION 8 CONT'D.

- 4-Failure To Have Written Permission
- 1-Unlawfully Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms
- 2-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area
- 4-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease
- 1-Take Oysters Illegal Hours
- 1-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel
- 2-Harvest Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License
- 1-Resisting Arrest
- 1-Littering
- 5-Endangered Species Act
- 5-Lacy Act
- 8-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA
- 1-Refuse/Misrepresent Booking Info
- 7-Taking Or Possession Of Other Non-Game Birds-No Season

CONFISCATIONS:

1 oyster dredge, ³⁶~~52~~ trawls, 4 butterfly nets, 30 crates of crabs-returned to water, 102 pounds of shrimp-returned to water, 30,464 pounds of shrimp, 45 sacks of oysters, 43 pounds assorted marine life-returned to water, 1 bird trap, 80 brown pelican eggs, 118 laughing gulls eggs, 27 striped bass, 1 large mouth bass, 1 flounder 1-20 inch red fish. *415, 877 lbs. shrimp*

Page (9)

REGION 9

TOTAL CASES-210

ENFORCEMENT-184

OTHER - 26

60-Boating

43-Angling W/O A License

5-Fish Without Resident Pole License

3-Use Gear W/O Recreational Gear License

12-Angling W/O Saltwater License

3-Taking/Poss. Over Limit Or Undersized Gamefish

2-Poss. O/L Of Red Drum In Excess Of 27"

1-Fail To Have Fish Intact

3-Take Or Possess Undersized Red Drum

1-Take Or Possess Undersized Black Drum

8-Take Or Sell Commercial Fish Or Bait Species W/O Commercial License

9-Take Commercial Fish W/O Commercial Gear License

9-Take Or Possess Commercial Fish Without A Vessel License

1-Sell And/Or Buy Fish W/O Wholesale/Retail Dealer's License

16-Take Or Possess Undersize Commercial Fish

1-Fail To Mark Crab Containers

1-Take/Possess Oysters Without Oyster Harvester License

1-Use Oversize Trawls

1-Possession Of Overlimit Rec. Shrimp

1-Failure To Have Written Permission

1-Taking Oysters From Unapproved Area

1-Unlawfully Take Oysters Off A Private Lease

1-Use Undersized Dredge Without Permit

Page (10)

REGION 9 CONT'D.

10-Trawling Or Seining On Oyster Lease

2-Failure To Display Proper Number On Vessel

1-Fail To Maintain Required Records Of All Alligator Transactions

2-Taking Or Possessing Alligators Closed Season

1-Possess Untagged MGB

1-Wanton Waste Of MGB

2-Possess Over Limit Of Doves

2-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

1-Driving While Intoxicated

2-Littering

2-Possess/Take Undersize Federal Controlled Fish

CONFISCATIONS:

95 boxes of crabs, 5,662 lbs. shrimp, 16 whole red drum fish and 6 filet red drum fish, 242 channel catfish, 20 sacks of oysters, 1-30 foot oyster dredge, 11 filet unidentified fish, 1 alligator skin, 1 alligator tail hide, 1-22 foot trawl, 1-31 foot trawl, 1-12 gauge Winchester shotgun, 1 boat and 4 amberjack.

Page (11)

S.W.E.P

RIP TIDE AND DELTA TIDE

248 Hours Running Time

Checked 159 Boats

TOTAL CASES-63

CONFISCATIONS:

44 trawls, 32,052 lbs. shrimp-sold for \$36,205.05.

Page (12)

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE

TOTAL CASES-58

12-Boating

8-Angling W/O A License

1-Use Gear W/O A Recreational License

6-Angling W/O A Saltwater License

1-Fail To Have Fish Intact (Saltwater)

1-Take Undersize Black Bass

1-Take Or Possess Undersize Red Drum

1-Take Or Possess Undersize Black Drum

1-Take Comm. Fish W/O Commercial License

1-Take Comm. Fish W/O A Gear License

1-Take Or Possess Comm. Fish W/O A Vessel License

1-Set Crab Traps In Nav. Channels Or Ent. To Streams

3-Take/Possess Oysters W/O A Harvester License

4-Failure To Have Written Permission

1-Take Oysters From State Water Bottoms

2-Take Oysters From Unapproved Area (Polluted)

4-Take Oysters Off Of A Private Lease

1-Take Oysters Illegal Hours

2-Fail To Display Number On Vessel

3-Harvest Oysters W/O Oyster Harvesters License

1-Not Abiding By Rules And Regulations On WMA

1-Resisting Arrest

1-Refuse Or Misrepresent Booking Info.

Page (13)

OYSTER STRIKE FORCE CONT'D.

CONFISCATIONS:

16 sacks of oysters, 2 speckled trout, 1 black drum, 1 flat boat, 2 outboard motors, 8 gill nets, 1 oyster dredges.

Page (14)

AIRCRAFT PILOT SUMMARY

Two Shrimp cases

Plane was in shop for 1 and 1/2 weeks.

Assisted in Search and Rescue

Patrolled in high water-Morganza

Patrolled West End for Oil Spill evidence.

<u>TOTAL CASES ENFORCMENT</u>	<u>-1732</u>
<u>TOTAL CASES OTHER DIVISIONS</u>	<u>- 174</u>
<u>TOTAL CASES S.W.E.P</u>	<u>- 63</u>
<u>TOTAL CASES OYSTER STRIKE FORCE</u>	<u>- 58</u>
<u>TOTAL CASES AIRCRAFT PILOT</u>	<u>- 2</u>
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	<u>-2029</u>

July 26, 1990

APPROVED VFS

AGENDA FOR COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular public board meeting as set by the Commission will be at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 5th, 1990, at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Preceding the Commission meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 5th the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission Budget Committee will meet at the Wildlife and Fisheries Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

On Friday, July 6th, 1990, the meeting will be continued at the same location at 9:00 a.m.

The following will be on the agenda:

1. Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes of June 7-8, 1990
3. Road Closure, West Bay WMA
4. Set Dates for Migratory Bird Seasons
5. Announce 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition
6. Land Acquisition
7. 1990 Turkey Season Results and Drawing for Guns
8. Notice of Intent, Fur Harvest Season
9. Notice of Intent, Alligator Harvest Program
10. Emergency Declaration, Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest
11. Notice of Intent, Opening of Fall Shrimp Season
12. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent, Jewfish Closure
13. Update on Case Disposition Reports from District Attorneys
14. Monthly Law Enforcement Report
15. Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework
16. Secretary's Report to the Commission
17. Set October Meeting Dates

OTHER BUSINESS:

PUBLIC COMMENTS:



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 26, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*
RE: July Board Meeting

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HUGH BATEMAN

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4. Announce 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition
5. Land Acquisition
6. 1990 Turkey Season Results and Drawing for Guns

JOHNNIE TARVER

7. Notice of Intent - Fur Harvest Season
8. Notice of Intent - Alligator Harvest Program
9. Emergency Declaration - Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest

JERRY CLARK

10. Notice of Intent, Opening of Fall Shrimp Season
11. Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent, Jewfish Closure

KELL MCINNIS

12. Update on Case Disposition Reports from District Attorneys

WINTON VIDRINE

13. Monthly Law Enforcement Report

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

14. Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework
15. Secretary's Report to the Commission

OTHER BUSINESS:

16. Set October Meeting Dates

PUBLIC COMMENT:

C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 11, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

RE: Commission Meeting Agenda - July 5-6, 1990

Please write on the bottom of this memo and return to Sharyn Bateman by Wednesday, June 25th, any agenda items your Office may have for the July 5-6 1990, Commission meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, LA, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, 2000 Quail Drive. If you do not have anything for the agenda, please return memo and indicate this on the bottom of this memo. We cannot add anything to the agenda that requires commission action after we have published the agenda in the state journal.

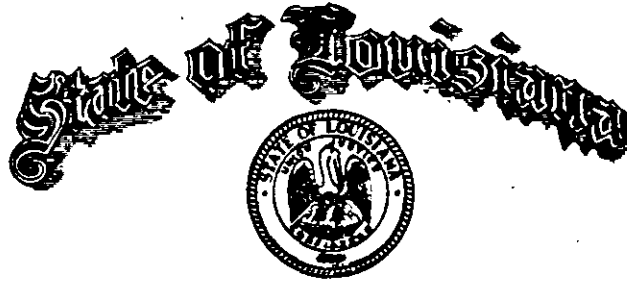
Resolutions and Notices of Intent should be included with the list of items to be placed on the agenda.

Thank you for your cooperation!

- 1) Road Closures, West Bay WMA - Tommy Prichett
- 2) SET DATES Migratory Bird Seasons - T. Prichett
- 3) ANNOUNCE 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition - DAVE MORRISON
- VVS/sb 4) LAND Acquisition - T. Prichett
- 5) 1990 Turkey Season Results AND DRAWING FOR GUNS - L. Soileau

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

**Hugh Bateman will be on leave and absent from this meeting -*



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

Johnnie
XC/4/7/90
TGM
FBI
Johnnie
JUN 08 90
FBI
BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 11, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

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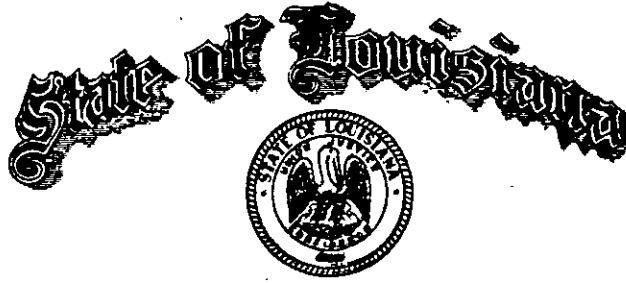
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Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

Furb Refuge Division:
1 - Notice of Intent - Fur Harvest Season
2 - Notice of Intent - Alligator Harvest Program
3 - Emergency - Alligator Harvest Program, wild harvest



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 11, 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of
Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle *VVS*

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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

*Nothing -
Blue*

RECEIVED
LA. DEPT. WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

OFFICE OF FISHERIES

Routing Slip

JUN 11 1990

Out: 25 6-11-90

Due:

FISH DIVISION In:

Office of Secretary:		Inland Fish Division:		Marine Fish Division:		Research Division:	
TO:	FROM:	TO:	FROM:	TO:	FROM:	TO:	FROM:
Van Sickle		X Clark	X	Clark		Clark	
McInnis		X Fontenot	X	Foote		Barrett	
Clark		Lee		Perret		Boudreaux	
Baker		Williams		Bowman		Arnoldi	
Byrd		Brassette		Roussel		Tilyou	
Puckett				Dugas		Shepard	
Callais							

Action:

— Please see me about this matter

— For your information.

— Take appropriate action.

— For review and/or approval.

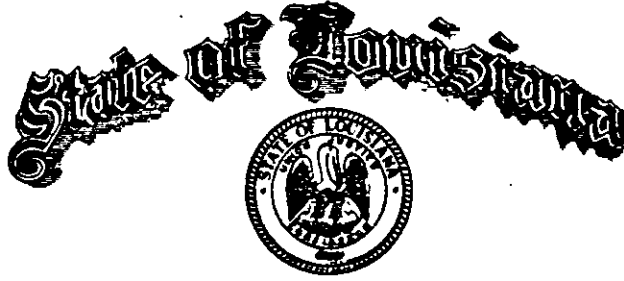
— Please look into this matter and prepare a written response for my or VVS signature and return a copy of your reply for filing.

— within 72 hours
— within 5 days

— Comments?

Note:

Response:



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

RECEIVED
BUDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR
LA. DEPARTMENT OF
WILDLIFE & FISHERIES

June 11, 1990

JUN 11 1990

ASSISTANT SECRETARY
OFFICE OF FISHERIES

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of
Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle VVS

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Thank you for your cooperation!

VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE
SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 98000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 765-2800

June 11, 1990

6-13-90 Karen
Phil
Ron Delivard
John
- Please get
it done by
Monday June 23.
Thank you.
Karen

6-22-90 BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

Jany - FYI
from Karen

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Deputy Secretary, Assistant Secretary Office of
Fisheries, Undersecretary and Office of Wildlife Chiefs

FROM: Virginia Van Sickle VVS

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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie

1. notice of intent
Opening of fall shrimp season
2. Declaration of emergency notice of intent
new fish closure (3) and VVS
how to write a notice of intent

June 25 1990

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Chairman and Members of Commission
FROM: Virginia Van Sickle
RE: ^{July}~~June~~ Board Meeting

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HUGH BATEMAN

JOHNNIE TARVER

Notice of Intent - Fur Harvest Season

Notice of Intent - Alligator Harvest Program

Emergency Declaration - Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest

JERRY CLARK

Kell McInnis - ~~an~~ update on ^{Case} Disposition Reports
from District Attorneys.

WINTON VIDRINE

Monthly Law Enforcement Report

VIRGINIA VAN SICKLE

~~Oyster Task Force~~

Facilitation Process for Deer Season Frameworks

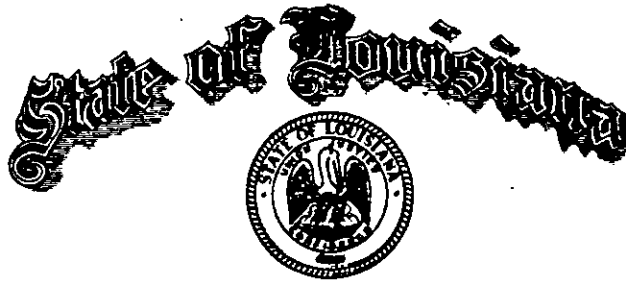
Secretary's Report to the Commission

OTHER BUSINESS:

Set October Meeting Dates

PUBLIC COMMENT:

C: Don Puckett
Kell McInnis
Bettsie Baker
Jerry Clark
Wade Byrd
John Medica
Division Chiefs



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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 11, 1990

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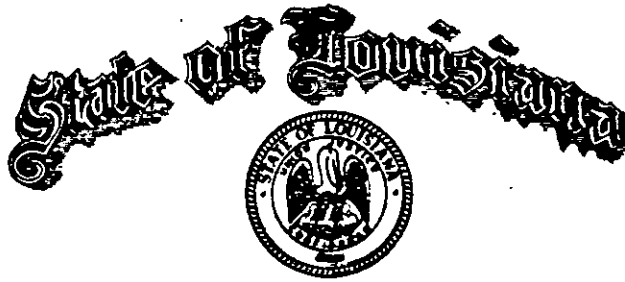
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



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BUDDY ROEMER
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June 11, 1990

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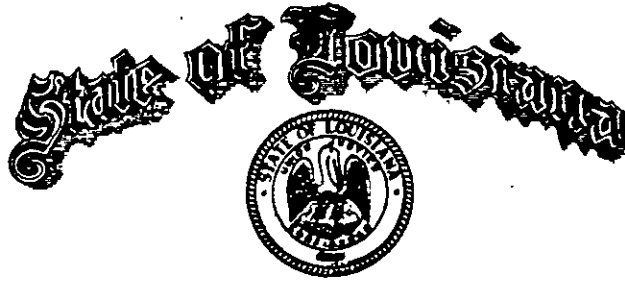
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



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SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
POST OFFICE BOX 88000
BATON ROUGE, LA. 70898
PHONE (504) 785-2800

BUDDY ROEMER
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FROM: Virginia Van Sickle VVS

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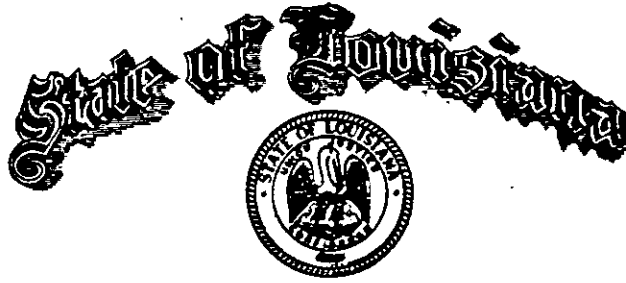
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C: Don Puckett
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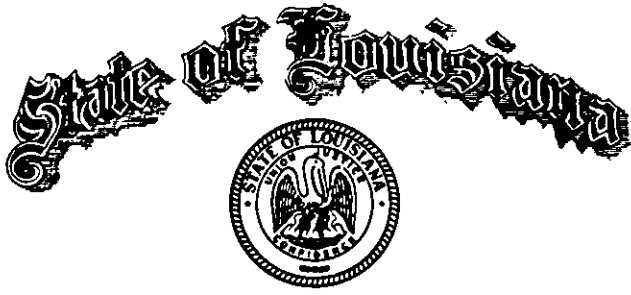
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VVS/sb

C: Don Puckett
Bob Dennie



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BUDDY ROEMER
GOVERNOR

June 28, 1990

MEMORANDUM

TO: Virginia Van Sickle
FROM: Johnnie Tarver
SUBJECT: Alligator Harvest Program Regulations

Reference is made to the draft alligator regulations for FY 1990-91. You have reviewed this document and suggested some changes that have been integrated whenever possible. This document has been thoroughly reviewed by Legal and Enforcement Divisions incorporating their suggestions where applicable. Additionally, suggestions were entertained and included from the Alligator Task Force as well as the Fur and Alligator Advisory Council. I am satisfied that the reviewers questions and comments have been addressed in this comprehensive document. Of course, as additional adjustments to the program appear from time-to-time, they will be addressed through Commission Action.

Please review and provide additional comments as required keeping in mind that we need to circulate the Alligator Regulations to the Commission as soon as possible. Thanks for your immediate attention.

If there are any questions, please call.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Johnnie Tarver", written over a horizontal line.

JWT:dsg

xc: LWFC Members
Alligator Task Force
Fur and Alligator Adv. Council
Ted Joanen
Greg Linscombe
Mike Windham
Enforcement
Game
1990

Concur:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Virginia Van Sickle", written over a horizontal line.

Virginia Van Sickle

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

PART V. WILD QUADRUPEDS AND WILD BIRDS

Chapter 7. Alligators

#701. Alligator Regulations

A. Purpose.

These regulations are to govern the taking, possession, selling, raising and propagation of alligators statewide, both in the wild and in captivity. They are enacted to prevent depletion or waste, while enhancing utilization of this renewable resource. These regulations are based upon scientific study and population monitoring and are consistent with federal requirements to qualify alligators and alligator parts from Louisiana for international export under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of wild fauna and flora. Alligators in Louisiana are not endangered but their similarity in appearance to endangered crocodilian species requires controls on commerce to minimize illegal trafficking of these species and to regulate and maintain the wild population of alligators. These regulations provide rules to enhance alligator farming operations; establish the methods of alligator harvest; establish minimum facility requirements for alligator farming; regulate commerce in alligators, eggs and parts; streamline necessary reporting requirements; and, establish a regulated nuisance alligator control program.

B. Definitions.

The following words and phrases for purposes of these regulations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section, unless the context wherein the particular word or phrase is used clearly indicates a different meaning:

1. Alligator - American alligator (Alligator mississippiensis).
2. Alligator Egg Collection Permit - A permit issued by the Department allowing for the collection of alligator eggs on designated properties described as part of the permit. The permit will be signed by the Secretary or his designee, the permittee and the landowner/land manager.
3. Alligator Farm - An enclosed area, constructed so as to prevent the ingress and egress of alligators from surrounding public or private lands or waters and meeting other specifications and requirements set by the Department, where alligators are bred, propagated, or raised as a commercial enterprise under controlled conditions.

4. Alligator Farmer - A properly licensed person who raises alligators under controlled conditions which prohibit free movement of the animals onto and off of the farm or controlled area, and who may harvest alligators under the supervision of the Department. An alligator farmer must possess a valid nongame quadruped breeder's license.

5. Alligator Hunter - A properly licensed resident or nonresident person who takes wild alligators.

6. Alligator Part - Any part of the carcass of an alligator, except hides tagged pursuant to all applicable laws and regulations including the laws and regulations of the United States Government, the State of Louisiana and the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

7. Alligator Parts Dealer - Any properly licensed person who deals in alligator parts and who:

(a) Buys from an alligator hunter, another parts dealer, or an alligator farmer for the purpose of resale; or

(b) Manufactures within the state alligator parts into a finished product; or

(c) Purchases, cans, processes, or distributes alligator meat for wholesale or retail.

8. Alligator Parts Retailer - Any properly licensed person selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption.

9. Alligator Parts Tag - An official tag issued by the Department that is attached to all unprocessed alligator parts upon transfer by an alligator hunter, an alligator parts dealer, or alligator farmer.

10. Alligator Shipping Label - A serially numbered label issued by the Department required on each container of alligators or alligator eggs being shipped or transported out of the state.

11. Bona Fide Resident (1) - Any person who has resided in the state of Louisiana continuously during the twelve months immediately prior to the date on which he applies for any license and who has manifested his intent to remain in this state by establishing Louisiana as his legal domicile, as demonstrated with all of the following, as applicable:

(a) If registered to vote, he is registered to vote in Louisiana.

(b) If licensed to drive a motor vehicle, he is in possession of a Louisiana driver's license.

(c) If owning a motor vehicle located within Louisiana, he is in possession of a Louisiana registration for that vehicle.

(d) If earning an income, he has filed a Louisiana state income tax return and has complied with state income tax laws and regulations.

(2) As to a corporation or other legal entity, a resident shall be any which is incorporated or otherwise organized under and subject to the laws of Louisiana, and as to which the principal place of business and more than fifty percent of the officers, partners, or employees are domiciled in Louisiana.

12. Closed Season - That period of time of a calendar year not specifically included in the open season.

13. Commission - The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission.

14. Common Carrier - Any agency or person transporting passengers or property of any description for hire.

15. Confiscation - The exercise of a right under the police power wherein property is seized and held pending court order if the seized material is nonperishable, or disposed of without judicial intervention if perishable.

16. Consumer - Restaurants and other places where alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life is prepared for human consumption; or any person using alligator, fish, shrimp, or other aquatic life for bait or personal consumption.

17. Department - The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

18. Designated Collection Agent - Anyone who is permitted by the Department to assist an alligator egg collection permittee during alligator egg collection.

19. Fur Buyer - Anyone who buys raw furs or skins from fur trappers, alligator hunters, fur buyers, or fur dealers and who sells to another fur buyer or fur dealer within the confines of the state or to a nonresident fur dealer licensed by the State of Louisiana in interstate commerce, or who acts as an agent of another fur buyer or fur dealer in this state in such purchase or sale. Fur buyers are divided into two

classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur buyers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur buyers.

20. Fur Dealer - Anyone who deals in raw furs and skins and who:

(a) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, or alligator farmer, either directly or indirectly, and ships or exports from this state, either directly or indirectly, the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(b) Buys from a fur buyer or other fur dealer and exports from this state the raw furs and skins so bought; or

(c) Buys from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or other dealer and sells such raw furs and skins for manufacturing into a finished product in this state; or

(d) Manufactures such furs and skins into a finished product in this state, buying directly from a fur trapper, alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer; or

(e) Transports raw furs or skins into this state for the purpose of sale within the state. Fur dealers are divided into two classes, resident and nonresident. Resident fur dealers are those who are bona fide residents of this state. All others are nonresident fur dealers.

21. Hatchling - A young of the year alligator which is less than twenty three (23) inches in length.

22. Hide - (See "Pelt").

23. Hook - Any curved or bent device attached to a line or pole for the purpose of taking alligators.

24. Hunt - In different tenses, attempting to take.

25. Incubator - An apparatus designed and used for the primary purpose of incubating alligator eggs.

26. Land Manager - Any authorized person who represents the landowner.

27. Landowner - Any person who owns land which the Department has designated as alligator habitat.

28. Licensee - Any resident or nonresident lawful holder of an effective license duly issued under the authority of the Department.

29. Nongame Quadruped - Alligators, beavers, bobcats, coyotes, gray foxes, minks, muskrats, nutrias, opossums, otters, raccoons, red foxes, skunks, and other wild quadrupeds valuable for their furs or skins.

30. Nongame Quadruped Breeder - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising, exhibiting and selling nongame quadrupeds on alligator or fur farms.

31. Nongame Quadruped Exhibitor - A person properly licensed to engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting nongame quadrupeds.

32. Nonresident - Any person who is not a bona fide resident as that term is defined by R.S. 56:8(12).

33. Nuisance Alligator - A specific (particular) alligator that poses a threat to human life or property.

34. Nuisance Alligator Hunter - A licensed alligator hunter who is contracted or otherwise selected by the Department to remove designated nuisance alligators.

35. Open Season - That period of time set by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, during which wild alligators or their eggs may be lawfully taken.

36. Out Of State Shipping Tag - An official, serially numbered tag, yellow in color, issued by the Department required on each shipment of alligator hides shipped out of state.

37. Part - For purposes of this section, a part is a division of a subsection.

38. Pelt - The skin or hide of a quadruped.

39. Pelting - Removing the skin and/or fur of a quadruped in such a manner as to render it marketable.

40. Person - Includes any individual person, association, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity recognized by law.

41. Pole Hunting - The act of taking an alligator from a den with a pole or snagging device of any type and includes using such devices to induce an alligator to move from a den prior to taking.

42. Possess - In its different tenses, the act of having in possession or control, keeping, detaining, restraining, or holding as owner, or as agent, bailee, or custodian for another.

43. Processed Alligator Part - Any part (and its resulting products) that has been removed from a legally taken alligator, treated to prevent decomposition, and packaged; provided that the meat is not processed until packaged and marked with required labeling as described in Subsection L of these regulations.

44. Propagation - The holding of live alligators for production of offspring.

45. Raising - The production of alligators under controlled environmental conditions or in outside facilities.

46. Rearing - (See "Raising").

47. Resident - (See "Bona Fide Resident").

48. Secretary - The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries.

49. Skin - (See "Pelt").

50. Take - In its different tenses, the attempt or act of hooking, pursuing, netting, capturing, snaring, trapping, shooting, hunting, wounding, or killing by any means or device.

51. Transport - In its different tenses, the act of shipping, attempting to ship, receiving or delivering for shipment, transporting, conveying, carrying, or exporting by air, land, or water, or by any means whatsoever.

52. Wildlife - All species of wild vertebrates.

53. Wildlife Management Area - Any area set aside, maintained, and supervised by the Department for the purpose of managing and harvesting wild birds, wild quadrupeds, fish and other aquatic life under controlled conditions to afford maximum public hunting and fishing opportunity.

54. Wildlife Refuge - Any area set aside and designated by the Department as a refuge on which wild birds and animals are protected. Control of certain forms of wildlife may be conducted by the Department.

C. General Rules.

1. No person shall take, possess, purchase or sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligators parts, or goods manufactured from alligators, except as provided in these regulations and LA. R.S. Title 56.
2. Each alligator, alligator egg, or alligator part taken or possessed in violation of these regulations shall constitute a separate offense.
3. Hides of alligators harvested in Louisiana shall be tagged in accordance with provisions of these regulations and deviation from those requirements shall be a violation and subject hides to confiscation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.
4. Pole Hunting is prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.
5. An alligator hunter must possess on his or her person one or more current alligator hide tags while taking alligators provided that only one licensed hunter needs to possess current hide tags among a group of licensed hunters who are physically present in the same location and are conducting a joint hunting operation. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.
6. No person shall release any alligator from any taking device for any purpose without first dispatching and tagging the alligator. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.
7. Collection of alligator hatchlings from the wild is strictly prohibited. Taking or collection of any wild alligator illegally is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is shall constitute a Class 7A violation for each alligator taken as described in Title 56. All alligators taken in violation of this part shall be confiscated and in addition to all other penalties provided herein, all alligator licenses of any type held by the offender(s) shall be revoked for a period of three (3) calendar years and no alligators shall be raised or propagated on the offender's facilities for a period of three (3) calendar years.
8. The shipment of alligator eggs out of state is prohibited except where special scientific permits have been obtained in advance from the Department and specify all such shipments. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. Transportation of alligator(s) into this state without prior written approval of the Department is strictly prohibited. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. It is unlawful to ship alligator eggs into the State of Louisiana unless they are to be used for Department sponsored scientific studies and these shipments shall have prior written Department approval. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

11. The shipment of live alligators or alligator eggs out of the United States is strictly prohibited unless they are used for Department sponsored scientific studies with an accompanying authorization signed by the Secretary. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. There is levied a severance tax of twenty-five cents on all skins or hides taken from any alligator, within the state, payable to the state through the Department by the alligator hunter or alligator farmer taking his own catch out of state, or by the dealer. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

D. Licenses, Permits and Fees.

1. The licenses and fees required for activities authorized by these regulations are as prescribed under provisions of Title 56, or as prescribed in these regulations, and are:

- (a) \$25 for a resident alligator hunter's license;
- (b) \$150 for a nonresident alligator hunter's license;
- (c) \$25 for a resident fur buyer's license;
- (d) \$100 for a nonresident fur buyer's license;
- (e) \$150 for a resident fur dealer's license (\$500 deposit required);
- (f) \$300 for a nonresident fur dealer's license (\$1,000 deposit required);
- (g) \$10 for a nongame quadruped exhibitor's license;
- (h) \$25 for a nongame quadruped breeder's license;
- (i) \$50 for a alligator parts dealer license;
- (j) \$5 for a alligator parts retailer license;
- (k) \$4 for each alligator hide tag;
- (l) \$4 for each whole alligator leaving the state as alligator shipping label fee;
- (m) \$0.25 severance tax for each alligator hide taken from within the state;
- (n) \$25 for a Designated Agent Collection Permit.

2. No person may take, attempt to take, or possess a wild alligator in this state during the open season for taking wild alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses an alligator hunter's license. An alligator hunter must have in

possession a valid alligator hunter license to take or sell alligators, their skins, or parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. No resident or nonresident fur buyer shall ship furs, alligators, alligator skins, alligator eggs, or alligator parts out of state. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Every resident fur dealer, alligator hunter, alligator parts dealer, alligator farmer, nonresident fur dealer, or nonresident alligator hunter shall not ship or take raw alligator skins, alligators, or alligator parts out of state without first complying with provision of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person may engage in the business of raising and/or exhibiting alligators unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped exhibitor license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in title 56.

6. No person may engage in the business of raising, breeding, propagating, exhibiting and selling alligators alive or selling their parts, and killing and transporting them and selling their skins and carcasses unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame quadruped breeder license and complies with Subsections N and O of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person shall engage in the business of buying and selling alligator parts unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid alligator parts dealer license. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each retailer selling canned alligator parts or purchasing alligator parts, and each restaurant selling prepared alligator meat for human consumption shall secure from the department an alligator parts retailer license prior to commencing business. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

9. No person shall remove and possess alligator eggs from wild nests unless he or she has acquired and possesses a valid nongame game quadruped breeder license or a valid Designated Collection Agent Permit and also has in his possession a valid alligator egg collection permit. Egg collection permits will only be issued to those persons who demonstrate competency in egg collection and handling, have necessary equipment accessible and comply with all Department

requirements as described in Subsection N of these regulations. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

10. No person shall ship or transport alligators out of the state without first applying for and receiving an alligator shipping label which shall be affixed to each container of alligators and is properly completed and validated by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

11. Every alligator hunter or alligator farmer shipping or transporting his own catch of alligator skins out of state is liable for the severance tax thereon, and shall apply for an official out of state shipping tag to be attached to the shipment and shall pay the severance tax prior to shipment. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

12. Valid holders of alligator hunter license, nongame quadruped breeder license, fur dealers license and alligator parts dealer license must comply with federal licensing and permit requirements to engage in interstate and international commerce involving alligators, alligator hides and parts. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

E. Wild Harvest Methods.

1. Alligators taken from the wild may be removed from hook and line, and other legal capture devices which may be used, only during daylight hours, between official sunrise and official sunset. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. There are no size restrictions on wild alligators taken during the general open season. A Department issued permit is required to sell alligators or their skins which are less than four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Legal methods for taking alligators in the wild are as follows:

- (a) Hook and line;
- (b) Long (including compound) bow and barbed arrow; and
- (c) Firearms.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Hooks and arrows may be used only when a line of at least 300-pound test is securely attached to the hook or head of the arrow in such a manner to prevent separation from the hook

or head until the carcass is retrieved. The other end of the line must be attached to a stationary or floating object capable of maintaining the line above water when an alligator is attached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator hunters shall inspect their hooks and lines and remove captured alligators daily. Alligators shall not be cut loose from hooks and lines for the purpose of selecting larger alligators. All hooks and lines shall be removed when an alligator hunter's quota is reached. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Baited hooks and lines may be set no more than 24 hours prior to the general open season and shall be removed no later than sunset of the last day of the open season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. No person possessing alligator hide tags issued for privately-owned land or water may take alligators on adjacent publicly-owned water unless the taking device is anchored to privately-owned land or the person is on privately-owned land when the taking occurs, provided that any alligator captured on a legal taking device that is anchored to privately-owned land or held by a person on privately-owned land may be dispatched from a floating craft on public water. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. A person possessing alligator hide tags for publicly-owned areas may take alligators by legal means from a floating craft on public water for which the tags are issued.

F. Alligator Hide Tag Procurement and Tagging Requirements.

1. Alligator hide tags may be obtained as follows and only to properly licensed alligator hunters and nongame quadruped breeders:

2. Landowners, Land Managers and Hunters - upon application to the Department on forms provided for tag issuance. Applications for alligator tag allotments will be taken annually beginning August 1 and ending 10 days after the season opens.

(a) Maximum tag issuance to individual landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall be determined solely by the Department. Landowners, land managers, or their hunters shall certify total acreage owned or represented on a form prescribed by the Department at the time of application. The location and acreage of the property must be provided which includes parish, township, range and section delineation figures.

(b) Land managers and hunters must present a notarized document from the landowner verifying their selection to represent that landowner and the total acreage represented to obtain hide tags.

(c) Payment for all alligator tags shall be received by the Department prior to issuance. Numbered alligator hide tags shall only be issued in the name of the license holder and are nontransferable. A refund will be issued for all unused alligator tags which are returned within the required time frame designated in these regulations.

Violation of parts 1 and 2 of this Subsection are class 2 violations as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator farmers - upon request to the Department at any time at least two weeks prior to scheduled harvesting, subject to verification of available stock by Department personnel. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. If an alligator hunter is cited for hunting alligators out of season, at night, or on property other than that for which hide tags were issued, all unused hide tags and alligators in possession shall be confiscated and the violator's alligator hunting license shall be revoked. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Special instructions will be issued to the holders of alligator hunting licenses immediately prior to the annual open season describing detailed methods regarding the skinning of alligators. Alligator farmers shall adhere to the annual skinning requirements when skinning farm raised alligators. Alligators not skinned in compliance with the established specific requirements shall be considered illegal and shall be confiscated by the Department.

6. It shall be a violation for any alligator hunter, alligator farmer, fur buyer, or fur dealer who knowingly attempts to sell an alligator hide that was not skinned in accordance with the established specific requirements. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. A hide tag shall be attached in the last six (6) inches of an alligator's tail immediately upon possession by an alligator hunter. The tag shall be attached in accordance with instructions issued by the Department. Alligator farmers may wait until farm raised alligators are skinned prior to tagging but only if the alligator has not left the farm premises. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

G. Open Season, Open Areas, and Bag Limits.

1. Open seasons are as follows:

(a) The general open season for taking alligators in the wild may be established annually by the Commission at their regular July meeting. The Secretary shall be authorized to close, extend or reopen the season as biologically justifiable.

(b) Nuisance control hunters may take nuisance alligators at any time as prescribed by the Department.

(c) Farm raised alligators may be taken at any time following the issuance of hide tags by the Department.

(d) The open season for collection of alligator eggs from the wild shall be from May 15 through September 15 of each calendar year.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. The open areas are as follows:

(a) For the general open season, those areas designated by the technical staff of the Department as alligator habitat and which can sustain an alligator harvest.

(b) The Department may select public lakes and lands for an experimental alligator hunting program. The harvest will be controlled by a tag allotment for each lake as determined by Department personnel. Applicants for public lake hunting must be 16 years of age or older. Applications must be received at least 10 days prior to the season opening date. A public drawing will be held to select hunters. An alligator hunter can receive tags for and hunt on only one public lake per season. The tag quota for each lake and hunter will be established by the technical staff of the Department. Alligator tags issued on public lakes and lands are nontransferable.

(c) Wild alligators in the remainder of the state may be taken only under provisions as prescribed by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. The daily and season bag limit is equal to the number of valid alligator hide tags that a licensed alligator hunter possesses. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. Non resident alligator hunters may only take three (3) alligator during the open season. Violation of this part is a class 4 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Harvest rates will be calculated annually by Department personnel based on biological data. Alligator hide tag allotments will be established prior to issuance of alligator hunting licenses.

H. Possession.

1. No person shall possess alligators or alligator hides in Louisiana without valid official tags properly attached. Failure to properly tag an alligator or hide shall result in confiscation of both the alligator or hide and tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator farmers may request hide tags or shipping labels from the Department to be used on farm-raised alligators that have died unexpectedly and may hold those alligators in freezers until receipt of the requested hide tags or shipping labels. These alligators may be held in freezers for a maximum of 60 days prior to disposal. All alligators 24 inches and greater in length that die unexpectedly must be properly skinned and tagged with an alligator hide tag. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. No person other than a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur buyer or licensed fur dealer may possess a tagged or labeled alligator, a tagged raw or salted hide of an alligator at any time, provided that legally documented tagged or labeled alligators or tagged hides may be possessed without license while in transit, or during processing for tanning or taxidermy. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess live alligators at any time other than by a permit issued by the Department upon request for use in displays and educational purposes, and by holders of valid Department issued permits for scientific purposes. Live, farm raised alligators and their alligator hide tags may be held for processing by a properly licensed alligator skinning facility without a license or permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. No person other than a licensed alligator farmer or licensed non game quadruped exhibitor may possess alligator eggs at any time other than Department permitted Designated Collection Agents assisting a licensed and permitted alligator farmer during wild egg collection, or a holder of a valid Department issued permit for scientific purposes. Any alligators hatched from scientific permits issued by the Department will be returned to the wild under Departmental supervision following completion of the research project. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

I. Importation, Exportation, Purchase, and Sale.

1. Alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators, may be brought into the state only if the alligators, alligator hides or parts of alligators were lawfully taken in another state or country and the person, firm or corporation bringing the alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or alligator parts into the state has obtained written permission from the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

2. All alligators, alligator hides (raw or salted), or parts of alligators possessed, sold, purchased, exported, imported, or brought into the state from another state shall be accompanied by documented evidence that they were lawfully taken. Documented evidence shall consist of, but not be limited to:

(a) A resource user license or permit number allowing the taking of alligators and tags or other identification required by the state or country of origin shall be firmly attached to the alligator, alligator hide, or parts of alligators; and

(b) A tag or label is affixed to the outside of any package or container of alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts that specifies type of contents, indicates quantity contained, and lists applicable license or permit numbers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. Purchases of alligators, alligator hides and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may not purchase alligators or alligator hides from anyone.

(b) A licensed fur buyer may purchase alligator hides from an Louisiana licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, licensed fur dealer, or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(c) A licensed fur dealer may purchase alligator hides from a licensed alligator hunter, licensed alligator farmer, fur buyer or another fur dealer.

(d) A licensed alligator farmer may purchase live alligators only from another licensed alligator farmer or the Department.

(e) An alligator farmer may purchase alligator eggs only from another alligator farmer, a landowner/land manager (with an approved Department alligator egg collection permit), or the Department.

(f) A licensed alligator parts dealer may purchase alligator parts from an licensed alligator hunter, alligator farmer, another alligator parts dealer, or the Department.

(g) A licensed parts retailer may purchase canned alligator parts or alligator parts from an alligator parts dealer.

(h) A restaurant may purchase alligator meat to sell prepared for human consumption with a alligator parts retailer license.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Sales of alligators and alligator parts are restricted as follows:

(a) A licensed alligator hunter may sell alligators, alligator hides, or alligator parts taken by the licensee during the general open season to anyone who may legally purchase.

(b) A licensed alligator farmer may sell alligators, alligator eggs, alligator hides, or alligator parts to anyone who may legally purchase. The sale of alligator eggs or live alligators shall only occur following the issuance of an Alligator Transfer Authorization Permit issued by the Department. Application for the permit shall be made at least 2 weeks prior to the transfer.

(c) A licensed fur buyer may sell alligator hides to a fur dealer or another fur buyer within the confines of the state.

(d) A licensed fur dealer may sell alligator hides to anyone who may legally purchase.

(e) A licensed alligator parts dealer may sell alligator parts to anyone.

(f) A licensed alligator parts retailer may sell canned alligator parts, processed alligator parts, or alligator meat to anyone.

(g) A restaurant possessing an alligator parts retailer license may sell alligator meat prepared for human consumption to anyone.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. Legally tagged and documented alligators, alligator hides, and parts of alligators taken in Louisiana may be shipped out of state or exported by alligator hunters, alligator farmers, fur dealers and alligator parts dealers subject to Subsection K of these regulations (relating to Report Requirements) provided that no live alligators or eggs originating in Louisiana may be exported outside of the United States without specific Department authorization and the concurrence of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to be used only for scientific purposes. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. A special permit is required of anyone who sells alligator eggs, live alligators under four (4) feet in length, or skins of alligators under four (4) feet in length. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

J. Nuisance Alligator Control.

1. Nuisance alligator hunters will be selected by the Department and may be based upon recommendations received from the local governing body. Applicants with prior alligator hunting violations will be rejected.

2. Nuisance alligator hunters shall purchase a valid alligator hunter license and are bound by all laws, rules and regulations governing alligator hunting with the exception that nuisance alligators may be taken at anytime. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Nuisance alligator complaints will be verified by Department personnel prior to being approved for removal. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Tags will be issued to nuisance alligator hunters for immediate attachment to alligators when taken. Nuisance alligator hunters will make every attempt possible to catch nuisance alligators and relocate to natural habitat selected by the Department. It is unlawful for any nuisance alligator captured alive to be sold or otherwise disposed of on an alligator farm. Alligators and alligator parts taken and tagged under these provisions may be retained and sold by the nuisance alligator hunter as any other legally taken wild alligator or alligator part. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Nuisance alligator hunters may take alligators by any means prescribed by the Department. Failure to comply with Departmental instructions may result in immediate termination of the individual's participation in the nuisance alligator program. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

K. Report Requirements.

1. Report forms provided by the Department must be completed and filed with the Department by all persons who have been issued an alligator hunter's license, fur buyer's license, fur dealer's license, nongame quadruped exhibitor's license, nongame quadruped breeder's license, alligator parts dealer's license, or alligator egg collection permit in accordance with this Subsection. Reports shall include but not be limited to the information specified in this Subsection.

2. Alligator hunters receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the season and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced.

(c) All unused tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the close of the season. Violation of this requirement shall result in no license or alligator tags being issued to the violator for a period of one year.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the close of the season, of any alligator hides not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department.

(e) Each licensed alligator hunter selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall provide that person with a bill of sale for each transaction.

(f) All records of transactions involving alligator parts of alligator hunters shall be available for inspection by the Department.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. A nuisance alligator hunter shall comply with the same report requirements as an alligator hunter and complete any other reports required by the Department. Violation of this requirement shall result in immediate termination of nuisance alligator hunter status. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator farmers receiving hide tags from the Department are responsible for disposition of all issued tags and must:

(a) Complete an official alligator parts transaction form, furnished by the Department for each alligator part transaction. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid and thereafter at 60-day intervals until all parts are sold. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(b) Complete an official lost tag form, furnished by the Department for any hide tags lost or stolen. These forms shall be submitted to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Lost or stolen tags will not be replaced. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(c) All unused hide tags must be returned to the Department within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid. Violation of this requirement shall result in the revocation of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is

a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(d) The Department must be notified within 15 days following the last day of the year that issued tags are valid of any alligator hide not sold to a fur buyer or fur dealer on official forms provided by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

(e) Each alligator farmer shall report annually, no later than December 31, on an official form provided by the Department, all activities that have occurred on the farm for the past year including but not limited to the number of live alligators as of that date, separated by sizes, the number of eggs collected and hatched, the purchase and sale of alligators for the past year and the numbers of alligators lost. Failure to complete this form properly and completely will result in non renewal of the nongame quadruped breeder's license. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

(f) Each licensed alligator farmer selling alligator parts to a person or a restaurant shall furnish that person with a bill of sale for each transaction. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation.

5. Fur buyers and fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must keep within the state a complete record on forms provided by the Department, all purchases and sales made of alligator hides as described in Title 56, and;

(a) Every buyer or dealer having undressed alligator hides in his possession after the close of each open season shall file with the Department within 60 days or prior to shipping out of state, a complete report, on forms provided by the Department, a detailed description of alligator hides then owned or held in possession as owner or agent.

Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. Fur dealers engaged in the business of buying and selling alligator hides must maintain complete records of alligator hides purchased inside and outside the state as described in Title 56. Failure to maintain complete records and to pay the required severance tax subjects any dealer to the full penalties provided and the immediate revocation of his license by the Department. No license shall be issued to a dealer who has not paid the tax for the preceding year. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator parts dealers purchasing alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts purchase form for each purchase. Alligator parts dealers selling alligator parts, shall complete an official alligator parts sale form for each sale. These forms shall be furnished by the Department and shall be submitted to the Department within 30 days following the close of the open season and at 60-day intervals until final disposition of all wild parts. These forms shall be submitted annually for all farm raised alligator parts, and;

(a) Alligator parts dealers shall furnish a bill of sale to anyone purchasing alligator parts.

(b) The records of transactions involving alligator parts shall be available for inspection by the Department and shall be maintained complete for a period of one year following any transaction.

Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

8. Any alligator parts retailer or restaurant purchasing alligator parts shall maintain a bill of sale for each purchase for a period of six months after such purchase and these records shall be available for inspection by the Department. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

L. Alligator Meat.

1. Alligator meat from lawfully taken alligators can only be sold according to state and federal laws, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals regulations and Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission regulations. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

2. Alligator meat processed in the State of Louisiana and sold for human consumption must be processed in a licensed facility approved by the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals and the facility must display a valid permit issued by that agency. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

3. Alligator carcasses being shipped whole shall be tagged with an alligator parts tag properly identifying the carcasses and shall remain on the carcasses until the processing makes identification impossible. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

4. Alligator hunters and alligator farmers involved in alligator parts transactions with individual consumers shall properly tag all alligator parts and the parts tag shall

remain attached until final disposition. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

5. All alligator meat processed for sale must be packaged in suitable containers which identifies the contents as alligator meat, is marked with a valid Department license number and comply with all state and federal packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

6. All alligator meat shipped into the state and being offered for sale must meet all of Louisiana's health, processing, packaging and labeling requirements. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

M. Disposal of Alligators by the Department.

1. The Department may sell alligators, alligator eggs or parts of alligators taken for any purpose deemed necessary for proper management of the species pursuant to Title 56.

2. The Department may dispose of alligators, alligator eggs, or parts of alligators by donation or lending to a scientific institution or other institutions that the Department deems have need for such alligators, however these institutions cannot sell or barter these animals and must be returned to the Department at the conclusion of the program or need.

3. Confiscated alligator hides and parts may be destroyed by the Department pending the outcome of the criminal trial.

4. Confiscated live alligator eggs or alligators will be cared for by the Department and released in suitable alligator habitat when and where they can survive. All costs incurred by the Department in the maintenance of these eggs and animals in captivity shall be the responsibility of the offender and restitution shall be made to the Department.

N. Alligator Egg Collection.

1. Alligator egg collection permits are a three party permit between the Department, the permittee and a landowner/manager who owns or leases alligator nesting habitat determined by Department biologists to be capable of producing alligator eggs. The numbers of eggs to be collected will be based upon biological management criteria and will be determined annually by technical staff of the Department. The Department only estimates the numbers of eggs available and assumes no responsibility or offers no guarantee that those numbers of eggs will be available. Alligator egg collection permits may be obtained upon application to the Department on forms provided by the Department. The annual deadline for

submitting applications for Alligator Egg Collection Permits is June 1. This program is experimental and may be changed at any time based on biological data to insure for proper management of the wild alligator population.

2. Alligator egg collection permits may be issued by the Department provided:

(a) Permittee is a properly licensed alligator farmer and meets all applicable requirements in Subsection O of these regulations (Alligator Farm Facility Requirements).

(b) All land documentation required on the alligator egg collection permit has been presented to the Department.

(c) Department biologists determine the properties described on the permit application are indeed alligator nesting habitat and can sustain alligator egg collections.

(d) Applicant has obtained all legal and necessary signatures from landowners/land managers.

Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. It is unlawful for an alligator farmer or a permitted Designated Collection Agent to collect eggs from properties other than those described in the alligator egg collection permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. An alligator farmer or designated collection agent in the act of collecting or possessing alligator eggs must possess on his or her person a copy of the fully executed alligator egg collection permit. The designated collection agent must also possess a valid designated collection agent permit. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Collection of wild alligator eggs can only be made after contacting the appropriate Department Enforcement Agent no less than 24 hours prior to each collection trip. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Alligator eggs can only be collected from the wild from official sunrise to official sunset and only during the established alligator egg collection season. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

7. Alligator eggs collected from the wild must be collected and transported in a manner which insures the greatest survival of viable eggs as determined by Department biologists. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

8. Each clutch of alligator eggs collected should be maintained as a separate entity from time of collection through incubation and hatching.

9. Failure to hatch at least 70% of viable alligator eggs collected from the wild shall be considered a waste of Louisiana's natural resources. All alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued should an alligator farmer be found to waste the resources of this state for two consecutive years.

10. Alligator egg collection permits shall be revoked and no new permits issued to alligator farmers who fail to average a minimum hatchling survival rate of 85% for two consecutive years.

11. The alligator egg collection permittee and the landowner are responsible for returning the percentage of live alligators to the wild described on the alligator egg collection permit. This requirement is nontransferable. Minimum return rates will be based upon the state average hatching success which is 78%. Each alligator shall be returned to the original egg collection area. Each alligator shall be a minimum of 48" in size and the returned sex ratio should contain at least 50% females. The Department shall be responsible for supervising the required return of these alligators. Releases back to the wild will only occur between April 15 and September 15 of each calendar year. Should an alligator egg collection permittee be unable to release the required number of alligators to the wild from his own stock, he shall be required to purchase additional alligators from another farmer to meet compliance with the alligator egg collection permit and these regulations, as supervised by the Department. Department sanctioned participants in ongoing studies involving survivability and return rates are exempt from these requirements during the period of the study. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

12. The percentage of 48" alligators to be returned to the wild shall be selected from the healthiest of all alligators of that year class. Abnormal or deformed alligators are not acceptable for release into the wild. It is unlawful for alligators that are to be returned to the wild to be transported out of state. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

O. Alligator Farm Facility Requirements.

1. All first time applicants for a nongame quadruped breeder's or exhibitor's license who will house alligators on their premises shall show compliance of the following minimum facilities as applicable to their particular operation during a required facility examination by Department personnel prior to license issuance:

(a) Secured premises with adequate barriers to prevent escape of enclosed alligators and entry by alligators from outside the farm and to deter theft of alligators.

(b) Source of clean, fresh water which shall be adequate to ensure for proper care of all alligator stock and facilities. This requirement shall be determined by Department personnel.

(c) Provisions for both dry area and pooled water within the secured area adequate for the numbers of alligators to be housed on the premises. This requirement will be determined by Department personnel.

(d) Provision for winter protection, either through adequate denning space or an enclosed, controlled-temperature environment of a design acceptable to the Department.

(e) All controlled-temperature alligator sheds shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each shed shall be capable of maintaining a minimum constant temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit. Minimum space requirements for alligators housed in the shed shall be:

(i) One square foot of space shall be required for each alligator less than 24" in length.

(ii) Three square feet of space shall be required for each alligator measuring 25" to 48" in length.

(iii) One additional square foot of space shall be required for each additional 6 inches of alligator length for alligators above four feet in length.

(f) All alligator egg incubators shall be of a design acceptable to the Department. Each incubator shall maintain a water and air temperature of 85 to 91 degrees fahrenheit during the egg incubation.

(g) Applicant must be in compliance with all laws and regulations pertaining to zoning, construction, health and environmental standards and must possess any and all applicable permits and licenses.

(h) All alligator facilities should be constructed in an suitable location so as to minimize contact with people.

2. Following initial issuance of applicable license, all applicable facility requirements shall be adhered to and Department personnel have the authority to inspect any and all of the facilities at any time. Failure to adhere to the requirements shall be a violation of these rules and violators will be given 60 days to correct the problem. Failure to comply shall result in confiscation of all animals and/or closure of all facilities. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

3. All alligator farmers possessing alligator eggs outside an alligator nest should house these eggs in identifiable original clutch groups in an incubator providing constant temperature and humidity conditions. All incubators used to incubate alligator eggs shall be of a design to allow for maximum temperature control and conform to Department requirements to allow for the maximum hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. All alligator farmers possessing alligator hatchlings shall house hatchlings in controlled environmental chambers capable of maintaining a minimum temperature of 80 degrees fahrenheit year round and containing dry and wet areas of sufficient surface area to permit all alligators to completely submerge in water and completely exit from water and orient in any direction, without touching the sides of the chambers. All alligators 48" or less in length shall be housed in environmental chambers unless a special permit is issued by the Department to move them to outside growth areas. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

5. Alligator farmers shall house alligators of different lengths into at least three groups, providing separation for all alligators less than two feet in length, two to four feet in length, and over four feet in length. Land and water areas sufficient for complete submersion or complete exit from water shall be provided for each group of alligators held. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

6. Nesting activity of captive alligators shall be recorded with weekly accounts of nests constructed, eggs collected, number of viable eggs set and hatching success. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

7. Complete written records shall be maintained by the license holder and shall be submitted to the Department on a standardized annual report form provided by the Department, which shall be provided as part of the annual license renewal. These reports must be submitted no later than December 31 of each year. Violation of this part is a class 3 violation as described in Title 56.

8. All facilities, alligator stock, and records are subject to examination by Department personnel prior to permitting and thereafter during farm operation. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

9. It shall be unlawful for alligator eggs or alligators to be moved from a licensed premises without approval of the Department. Violation of this part is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

P. Exceptions.

1. These regulations do not require licenses, labels, or permits for consumers who purchase or possess goods processed or manufactured from alligators which have been legally taken or raised, provided that such goods are used by the consumer and are not sold or bartered in conjunction with a wholesale or retail business activity.

2. The Department or an authorized representative of the Department may take by any means and possess alligators or parts of alligators while in the performance of official duties.

3. These regulations shall not prohibit a person from killing an alligator in immediate defense of his or her life or the lives of others. Alligators killed under this provision must be reported to the Department within 24 hours. Violation of this part is a class 2 violation as described in Title 56.

4. These regulations do not require a state license or permit of persons who deal in finished alligator leather products.

Q. Penalty for Violation.

1. In order to facilitate greater control over alligator trafficking, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries finds that public welfare imperatively requires emergency action when the provisions of these regulations are violated.

2. If citations are issued for a violation of these regulations, all licenses and tags belonging to or in the possession of the cited party shall be suspended until such time as the said party appears before Department officials for purposes of reviewing the citations issued. The Secretary, after reviewing the proceedings may reinstate or revoke the suspension. The alleged violator may lose all rights and privileges to participate in this program if found guilty by criminal or civil process.

3. The Department shall have the authority to confiscate any alligators or alligator eggs from any person or facility that is not caring for the alligators or alligator eggs in a humane manner. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs consists but is not limited to conditions which could have an adverse effect upon the alligators or alligator eggs such as sanitary conditions, temperature control, feeding, or overcrowding. The confiscated alligators and alligator eggs shall be disposed of as the Department deems necessary. Inhumane treatment of alligators or alligator eggs is a class 7A violation as described in Title 56.

4. In addition to all penalties set forth herein, violators may be subject to criminal prosecution under provisions of the Louisiana Revised Statutes, particularly Titles 14 and 56 and under Federal law.

5. In addition to all other penalties provided by these rules and by statute, violation of any part of these regulations may result in the suspension and/or revocation of any or all alligator licenses held by the violator and, as further penalty, for serious, repeat, or multiple violations, the Department shall have the right to deny a violator any and all licenses relating to alligators for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

June 26, 1990

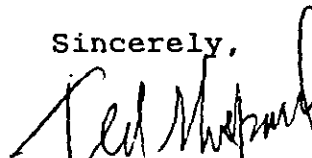
Ms. Virginia Van Sickle
Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
P. O. Box 98000
Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000

Dear Ms. Van Sickle:

The Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has voted to request that you replace Mr. Jerry Clark as your delegate to the Task Force. The next meeting of the Task Force will be in early August and we will need someone by that time.

If you have any questions, please contact me, at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Ted Shepard
Co-Chairman
Shrimp Task Force

RECEIVED
JUL 2 1990
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

JUL 2 1990

STATE OF LOUISIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
BATON ROUGE

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. BR - 89 - 11

WHEREAS, the shrimp fishery is the most valuable fishery in Louisiana;
and

WHEREAS, there are currently numerous problems confronting the
Louisiana shrimp industry;

NOW THEREFORE I, BUDDY ROEMER, Governor of the State of Louisiana, by virtue
of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and
applicable statutes of the State of Louisiana, hereby create
the Governor's Task Force on Shrimp Management to be composed
of:

- 1) one shrimp broker,
- 2) two members of the Louisiana Shrimp Association,
- 3) two Louisiana members from the American Shrimp Processors
Association,
- 4) nine shrimp fishermen from throughout coastal Louisiana,
- 5) one shrimp buyer, and
- 6) one staff member from the Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries to serve as a non-voting chairman.

This Task Force shall have the following goals:

- 1) review the current statutes, regulations and management
techniques employed by the Department of Wildlife and
Fisheries as they relate to the Louisiana shrimp industry,
- 2) recommendations for a management criteria to open and
close the shrimp seasons in offshore waters and the fall
inshore season,
- 3) review of "limited entry" as it might apply to the
Louisiana shrimp fishery
- 4) to take other steps to assure the proper management of
the Louisiana shrimp resource, and
- 5) submit a written report to the Governor by December 31,
1990.

In order to accomplish such goals, the Shrimp Task Force may
request such assistance reasonably necessary from the Department of Wildlife
and Fisheries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand officially
and caused to be affixed the
Great Seal of the State of
Louisiana, at the Capitol, in
the City of Baton Rouge, on this
30th day of March, 1989.

GOVERNOR OF LOUISIANA

ATTEST BY
THE GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE



news release

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge
HCR 63, Box 186
Lake Arthur, Louisiana 70549

For Release March 5, 1990

Bobby W. Brown 318/774-5923

U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE ENTERS JOINT VENTURE PROJECT WITH CONSERVATION GROUP IN SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA

Under the auspices of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through its Lacassine National Wildlife Refuge, has entered into a joint venture project with a local conservation group in southwest Louisiana. The project was implemented on the Cormier Easement Area (formerly FmHA property) located approximately five (5) miles northwest of Welsh, Louisiana.

In the endeavour Fish and Wildlife Service personnel were assisted by Acadiana Sportsmen's League members in surveying and evaluating the area for possible waterfowl use. The Acadiana Sportsmen's League donated funds that were used to improve waterfowl management on the tract. Soon after field work was completed hundreds of ducks and geese along with many non-game animals were observed.

This joint venture project in southwest Louisiana is believed to be the first of its kind between the Fish and Wildlife Service and a local conservation group under the banner of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

The Acadiana Sportsmen's League, domiciled in Crowley, Louisiana is a local affiliate of the Louisiana and National Wildlife Federations. It is a conservation/environmental group dedicated to the wise use of all wildlife and natural resources.

For further information please call 318/774-5923 or 318.783-7062

Gulf Coast Joint Venture

May 1, 1990, marked the creation of the Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge in a ceremony held in New Orleans, Louisiana. The event culminated a 3-year effort by the Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire the 18,000 acres located within the eastern city limits of New Orleans. Acquisition of this valuable wetland area is an important step for Louisiana, a state hard hit by wetlands loss.

A plan for conserving and restoring Louisiana's coastal wetlands was presented to the State legislature for approval in early March 1990. It is presently going through an approval process. Prepared by the Wetlands Conservation and Restoration Task Force, the plan recommends numerous specific projects to reverse the 25-year loss of coastal wetlands that has averaged 50 square miles per year. Many of the proposed projects are ones which have been identified in initiatives of the Gulf Coast Joint Venture. When approved, the plan will be implemented with revenues from a recently established trust fund that derives its income from state oil and gas receipts. It is estimated that these funds will total \$15 to \$25 million per year.

Gerry Bodin from the Fish and Wildlife Service Lafayette Field Office assisted the Corps of Engineers in identifying good disposal sites for dredge spoil from the Atchafalaya Bay navigation channel. Spoil from maintenance dredging will be moved farther than in the past to sites where wetlands will be enhanced. The New Orleans Corps District is placing increased emphasis on formation of new wetlands and avoiding filling of existing wetlands.

A \$20,000 donation from Chevron, U.S.A., Inc. was matched by the Fish and Wildlife Foundation making \$40,000 available for restoring fresh water marshes on the Delta NWR at the mouth of the Mississippi River. The funds will be used to construct two "crevasses" through natural levees that are characteristic of the River's delta marshes. These naturally formed levees keep the silt-laden waters of the river from spreading over formerly vegetated marshland which has gradually subsided to form open water lakes. Openings created through the levees, termed crevasses, channel some of the river flow into these lakes where the water slows and deposits its silt load on the bottoms. As silt fills the lakes, the typical fan-shaped deltas and flow arteries are formed and the natural marsh plants that are so important to waterfowl and other wildlife are gradually restored.

The Acadiana Sportsmen's League in Crowley, Louisiana entered into a joint venture project with Lacassine NWR to accomplish waterfowl management improvements on the 77-acre Cormier Easement Area, a former FmHA property. The League donated funds for paying a farmer to "water buffalo" (roll down) moist soil portions of the property to make waterfowl foods available. The property received heavy use by wintering waterfowl.

MINUTES OF MEETING

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

JULY 5-6, 1990

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Thursday, July 5, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Mr. Joe Palmisano was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

Chairman Warren Pol presiding:

Friday, July 6, 1990

Don Hines
Jimmy Jenkins
Bert Jones
Norman McCall
Pete Vujnovich

Mr. Joe Palmisano was absent from the meeting.

Secretary Van Sickle was also present.

At Thursday's meeting a motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the **Minutes of the June 7-8, 1990 Commission Meeting**. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Warren Pol advised that he had asked that the item **Outside Contracts** be put on the agenda. The department has a lot of contracts with outside institutions which amounts to quite a bit of money (around a million dollars).

Chairman Pol had requested that Dr. Clark gather information on the outside contracts ^{to} ~~and~~ see if money could be saved if these were done by in-house people. Chairman Pol stated that he realizes that there are some services the department cannot do but in his opinion he does not believe the department is getting a million dollars worth. Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark to go over this item with the Commission and explain to them what could be done.

Dr. Clark informed the Commissioners that the packet of materials that they had each received were from the Office of Fisheries and he did not prepare any other materials for any other contracts. The Office of Fisheries contracts probably total six to eight hundred thousand ^{dollars} this year advised Dr. Clark and each packet lists the individual contracts and discusses what each of the contracts are in principle and why the original contract was signed.

Chairman Pol asked Dr. Clark if, in his opinion, did he think the department could do most of this in-house? Dr. Clark stated that with current personnel and current head count it could not be done in-house; however, Ms. Baker has advised that as far as doing contract research the department can ~~put people on that are not part of the head count to do some of the research.~~ Dr. Clark stated that if the Commission would ask him straight up if the department could do a lot of the research with additional people the answer is yes and if they ask him if he thought the department should do it the answer would be yes. Dr. Clark commented that he

3 hire temporary employees to conduct ~~research~~ specific research projects.

would rather have the staff do the work in-house than to contract it out. Chairman Pol asked if most of the contracts were automatically renewed every year depending on the federal participation? Dr. Clark stated that he would not say most because most of these are not recurring contracts.

Mr. Jenkins asked where the source of the funds (\$755,000) come from to do the projects? Dr. Clark answered that the principle source is federal funds, the second principle source would be LOOP (Louisiana Offshore Oil Port) funds and the rest would be state funds and other funds. Mr. Jenkins asked if the department had the people that were qualified to work on these projects on staff, would there be any trouble obtaining the funds? Dr. Clark answered no. Chairman Pol asked if funds were obtained before the contracts are let? Dr. Clark answered yes. Mr. Jenkins commented that since these research entities make applications to the department for these funds, which then go to them, couldn't the department make the same applications for these jobs and ~~do them themselves by~~ hiring the appropriate people. Dr. Clark advised that actually this is what the department already does with some that are subcontracted by the department and gave the Shrimp Management Plan (MARFIN) as an example. Chairman Pol stated that one thing he wanted to make clear to Secretary Van Sickle and Dr. Clark is that this is in no way meant to hurt anybody but what he is thinking of is what is best for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and asked Secretary Van Sickle if there were many other contracts like these

that are let out? Secretary Van Sickle advised not really, this was the bulk of them. In the Office of Fisheries, even though there may be \$700,000 worth of contracts only \$213,000 are state funds. The bulk of these contracts are federal monies. Projects such as MARFIN, these monies usually go to universities to do research around the country and Louisiana universities work in cooperation with the department to write joint proposals for projects, advised Secretary Van Sickle. In every state in the country there is a university, generally their flagship university like LSU, that is designated to have a Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at that university. Secretary Van Sickle pointed out that at LSU the federal government puts up \$300,000, Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries puts up \$66,000 and the university gives them a lot of ~~in~~ space, etc. amounting to about a half million dollar program. The first contract was written back in 1962-63 to train more people in the fish and wildlife field and a lot of the department's personnel came from this project advised, Secretary Van Sickle. This is one project that the department could never do because it is not a university, stated Secretary Van Sickle.

Chairman Pol stated that according to Title 56 the Commission is suppose to review all outside contracts and pointed this out in the Title 56 publication. Also, it has been ruled by the Attorney General that the Commission review outside contracts, but the Commission has never been able to look at these contracts.

Chairman Pol thinks that the Commission should be allowed to do this. Secretary Van Sickle asked Chairman Pol, how would the Commission like to start? Chairman Pol stated that he would let her know. Mr. Jenkins asked about the dates of contracts and also if on an ongoing basis, year in and year out, would the total for contracts this year be a normal year or is this more than usual or less than usual and what could the department look forward to if it undertakes to do this ~~themselves~~ and to have X amount of income to support this. Dr. Clark advised that this is not a normal year, it is more than usual. Ms. Baker stated that she could address two of the questions. She advised that whether these were 89-90 or 90-91 contracts, that a lot of these contracts roll over, they go over fiscal years and it is hard to isolate its particulars. These are contracts that are in place right now, advised Ms. Baker and ^{she} pointed out that some of the dollars came out of last year's budget ^{which} ~~that~~ just ended on June 30 and some of the payments will come out of the next fiscal year. Addressing the second question on what looks like a normal year Ms. Baker advised that vendor files were pulled for the period that the department had vendor files in resident which goes back for two years. Last year \$655,000 was paid out in contracts to LSU and the year before that it was right at \$450,000. This is an extremely high period of time that the department is in ^{50 million} contract wise relative to the immediate past years but ^{in that half} million dollars range is a baseline for contracts with LSU stated Ms. Baker. Secretary Van Sickle asked Dr. Clark what caused the increase between \$655,000 and \$755,000. Dr. Clark advised the

three contracts that had been added most recently, ~~that~~ ^{type} were not on the original list, were the LSU Coastal Fisheries, SEAMAP and the Tuna, Shark and MARFIN plans. Mr. Jenkins asked if there was some way that the last two or three years of these contracts could be reviewed, pick out what the department could do and look at what sort of income could be diverted to the department to do these projects on an ongoing basis year in and year out? Dr. Clark commented that he believes the funds could be classified as types and make some sort of prediction as to whether or not they are ongoing or whether they are likely to remain ongoing or whether or not they are truly one of a kind ~~kinds~~ of funds. Mr. Jenkins suggested that this might be one thing to do to get a handle on this issue. Chairman Pol suggested that since everybody has the packet that Dr. Clark distributed that between now and the next Commission meeting that the Commissioners read over the materials and then come back and discuss this with Secretary Van Sickle, Dr. Clark, ^{then} ~~and~~ decide from there what needs to be done. Dr. Clark pointed out that the packet only includes Office of Fisheries contracts. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission wants to get involved in reviewing the department's contracts, which the Commission has never done to her knowledge in the past, she will need some guidance from them as to how much involvement they want, such as how soon they want to get involved and at what level of detail because for this fiscal year ~~Ms. Baker's~~ ^{the} budget has the contracts already listed which may present a problem. Chairman Pol advised that they will let Secretary Van Sickle know

what they will want done.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett discussed and presented to the Commission a resolution on **Road Closure on West Bay Wildlife Management Area**. Mr. Prickett reported that one of the most important and successful programs of the department has been the establishment and development of the wildlife management area system *One word
I want proof* thought out the state and presently there are 38 wildlife management areas. These areas are opened to the public for hunting, fishing and other outdoor recreation and furnish a wide variety of activities for the state's outdoor recreation. Wildlife management areas, in years to come, will have to be put to the best possible use to deliver the maximum potential of the wildlife resources. *is* The West Bay WMA area is located in North Central Allen Parish, consist of 55,185 acres and *is* privately owned, advised Mr. Prickett. The lease which is obtained from timber companies (Boise Cascade Corporation, Kirby Forest Industries, Incorporated and Quatre Parish Lumber Company) without charge to the state ~~and~~ gives the department the right to manage wildlife on the area. There are over 300 miles of roads and 60 points of entrances into the area and to better manage the wildlife within this area the department feels it is necessary to reduce the number of roads and entrances and restrict the hunting from roads open to vehicular traffic. This action is important toward improving and maintaining wildlife populations, help in the enforcement of rules and regulations while providing a safety margin for the public utilizing this area. The

following restrictions will be implemented to accomplish these goals on West Bay WMA:

- 1) Installation and ~~maintaining~~ ^{Maintenance} of 53 gates and allow only 7 entrances points into the area.
- 2) Reduce the number of roads for public use from 300 miles to approximately 125 miles. Interior road closures will be maintained with road restriction signs.
- 3) Restrict hunting from roads open to public vehicular traffic.
(No hunting allowed 100 feet from center line of road)
- 4) Installing and maintaining information booths to inform the public of new regulations and activities occurring on the area.
- 5) Print new maps showing entrance points and roads open to vehicular traffic for public use while on West Bay WMA.

The implementation of these new regulations on West Bay WMA are in conjunction with the landowners and with the public's support, will help in the management of the wildlife resources while providing better recreational opportunities to the outdoorsmen, concluded Mr. Prickett.

After a short discussion on this issue Chairman Pol advised that final action on the resolution would be taken Friday.

At Friday's meeting Mr. Prickett presented the resolution on road closures on West Bay WMA. Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously. Mr. Jones asked if the roads could be utilized with food plots and new growth around the edge since they will be out of active service for the most part? Mr. Prickett informed Mr. Jones ^{that} this is exactly what the department would like to do but West Bay does have one other problem, it has free ranging livestock on the area. A couple of years ago the companies asked the department to tell them what needed to be done on that area to have a first class wildlife program. Recommendations were made on how the timber should be managed, the fact that the livestock needed to be removed from the area, and road closures. At this time the companies do not feel that they can get the cattle off of the area. Dr. Hines asked if the roads that will be left were going to be kept up somewhat better than the roads in the past? Mr. Prickett answered the road closures will allow the department to do a little more maintenance.

(The full text of the resolution is
made a part of the record)

Resolution

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

July 5-6, 1990

1
WHEREAS, the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Quatre
Parish wish to maximize wildlife populations and public enjoyment
of West Bay Wildlife Management Area, and

WHEREAS, all of the above parties responsible for the management
of West Bay agree that the current 320 mile road system is
greatly in excess of the roads necessary to provide adequate
public access and that said excess causes undue disturbance
to resident wildlife, and

WHEREAS, this 320 mile road system with 63 entrances onto West Bay
inhibits the proper enforcement of wildlife laws and WMA
regulations, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries
Commission concurs with the aforementioned companies and
Department staff in closing certain roads and entrances as
indicated on the attached map of West Bay Wildlife Management
Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Warren Pol, Chairman

At this point during Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle announced that she had to leave the Commission meeting for about half an hour and Deputy Secretary Kell McInnis would be taking her place, *and could always speak on the Department's behalf.* *birds*

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett presented the **Dates for the Migratory Bird Seasons** to be set by the Commission. Mr. Prickett reported that this is webless migratory and does not include waterfowl. The department is making a tentative recommendation to the Commission today for seasons and the reason it is being done today is so that something can be printed in the hunting pamphlet which is being held up until direction is received from the Commission on the seasons. Next month the department will come back to the Commission with an emergency declaration to set these seasons plus the waterfowl seasons. Mr. Prickett gave background information on dove season in Louisiana. There are about 80,000 hunters with roughly 2 million birds harvested a year. There are a couple of different ways to set dove season, both the length and bag limit. There are a couple of different options that the state has, one is a 70 day season with a 12 bird bag limit which traditionally Louisiana has taken and a 60 day season with a 15 bird bag limit. A number of the southeastern states have taken the other option but Louisiana hunters have indicated to the department that they prefer the greater days with a lesser bag

~~Another~~ Another one word
limit. This is what the department is recommending to the Commission stated Mr. Prickett. Another issue is whether or not to allow all day shooting, sunrise to sunset. In 1986 a compromise was struck by the Commission and the sportsmen which made the opening two days of each split half day hunting, 12 noon to sunset. The remainder of the days were all day hunting, sunrise to sunset. The department has been in this posture since 1986 and Mr. Prickett advised that the department is recommending to the Commission that they stay in this posture. The department does not see a biological difference and does not believe changing it one way or the other is going to make any difference in the population of doves. Dates for dove season are recommended as follows:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Bag Limit</u>
Sept. 1-9	9 days	12
Oct. 13 - Nov. 11	30 days	12
Dec. 8 - Jan. 7	<u>31 days</u>	12
	70 Total	

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except on the opening weekend of each split (Sept. 1-2, October 13-14, and Dec. 8-9) when shooting hours will be 12 noon to sunset.

Mr. Jenkins asked if the department has received any comments on going to the 60 days, 15 doves limit because he has had a couple

of people ask him about this and also asked about the comment that Mr. Prickett made about it not making any difference biologically if you hunted all day or half ~~of~~ ^a day. Mr. Prickett stated that the department believes that dove hunters hunt when there are doves available and traditionally the greatest effort is on the opening weekend so going to half-day hunting as opposed to all day hunting will not change ~~your~~ ^{the} harvest much. Dr. Hines stated that one of the reasons for going to all day ^{hunting} is that a lot of the farmers had asked the department to consider all day ^{hunting} because they cannot get into the field until 9 or 10 in the morning because of the dew and work until 7 or 8 at night.

Chairman Pol stated that he had received a letter from the Louisiana Wildlife Federation objecting to the all day hunting and they have recommended that the shooting hours go from noon ~~until~~ ^{until} sunset. Chairman Pol asked if there was anybody who would like to address this subject.

Mr. Chuck Sabeto, President of the Acadiana Sportsmen's League, addressed the Commission. Mr. Sabeto advised that he was not just representing dove hunters from southwest Louisiana but dove hunters from all over the state. In 1985 the Acadiana Sportsmen's League took a survey of some 2,200 hunters throughout the state which showed 71 percent for afternoon dove hunting only and 85 percent for 70 days, 12 bird limit. The shorter waterfowl seasons are putting a bigger strain on the dove with more people hunting dove.

A petition was presented to the Commission signed by persons who favored the afternoon dove hunting only shooting hours and Mr. Sabeto asked the Commission to take this into consideration when setting the seasons.

Chairman Pol asked Mr. Sabeto since he was associated with dove hunters ^{from} all over the state if there was ever a question presented to them that would say 60 days total dove hunting days and 15 bag limit? Mr. Sabeto answered yes and they responded they would rather go with the 70 days, 12 bird limit. Mr. Jones asked how the survey was taken. Mr. David Boudreaux, Secretary of Acadiana Sportsmen's League addressed Mr. Jones' question. Back in 1984 the club instituted a migratory game bird hunting survey which dealt with all aspects of waterfowl and migratory game bird hunting and it had questions involving dove hunting. The surveys were sent out in the mail, ^{distributed to} ~~left out at~~ sporting good stores and placed in newspapers throughout the state with over 2,200 responses to the questionnaire. Going through the findings of the survey it was found that 71 percent of hunters wanted afternoon hunting and 85 percent wanted the 70 days, 12 bird limit. At the time of the survey the hunters preferred more days than three more birds in a bag limit. Response on the survey came from Lake Charles, Sulphur, Jennings, Crowley, Alexandria, Monroe, Shreveport, New Orleans, Ponchatoula, etc. Mr. McCall advised that he has had four or five call this past week asking for all day hunting instead of half ^a ~~of~~ day ^{from} ~~out of~~ the Lake Charles area. Mr. Boudreaux stated that within

the bulk of the hunters that they have talked to in the last few weeks that 90 percent want the afternoon only. Mr. Boudreaux suggested that as a compromise that the September split be maintained and that ^{the} season could be on an all day basis because of the heat involved and the other splits could be afternoon only. Mr. Boudreaux pointed out that they are hearing a lot of talk from the farmers saying that they are having many problems with the all day hunting. Concluding, Mr. Boudreaux stated that they would entertain a compromise for the September season being all day if the other two seasons were half days.

Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Prickett if the department had a survey. Mr. Prickett advised that one had been done in 1983 and in 1984 with each being a little different because the seasons were set different. The first survey showed 58 percent of the people who responded preferred all day hunting and 42 percent preferred the half-day. The second survey showed 25 percent liked the compromise season, 38 percent preferred all day and 37 percent preferred half-day. There were 13,009 license buyers receiving survey forms in 1983 and approximately the same in 1984.

Chairman Pol asked the Commission how they felt about the shooting time. Dr. Hines and Mr. Jones stated that they thought it should be left like it is with Mr. Jones commenting that basically dove field, for the most part, are privately held as far as hunting privileges are concerned and if a person prefers not to hunt in the

morning he has that ~~by~~ choice. Mr. Prickett pointed out that the Eastern Management Unit, which Louisiana is a part of, is the only management unit that has entertained afternoon only hunting for doves. All the rest of the management units have had all day hunting for doves. Mr. Jones asked what were the bag limits in surrounding areas. Mr. Prickett advised that in the north half of Alabama they take the 60 days, 15 bird option, Arkansas, Mississippi, Kentucky, and Tennessee are the other states that also take that option. Mr. Jenkins asked Mr. Prickett if the Commission wanted to look at 60 days, 15 birds did he have a recommendations on the dates. The dates would be the following advised Mr. Prickett. September 1-9, October 20 - November 11, and December 15 - January 11. All of these would open on a Saturday and close on a Sunday with the exception of ~~the~~ January 11 which is a Thursday. Mr. McCall stated that he thought the seasons and shooting hours should be left like they are. Mr. Vujnovich stated to leave it like it is.

Mr. Bo Barb, Lake Charles, addressed the Commission. Mr. Barb asked the Commission to leave the season like it is because for years people worked to get the compromise.

Mr. Richard Judice, Lake Charles, addressed the Commission. He wants the Commission to keep the 70 days, 12 birds with all day hunting.

Chairman Pol called for motion. Dr. Hines made a motion to set the dove season as recommended which is September 1 - 9, October 13 - November 11 and December 8 - January 7 for 70 days with a bag limit of twelve and shooting hours^{to} be one hour before sunrise to sunset except on the opening weekend of each split, Sept. 1-2, October 13-14 and December 8-9 when shooting hours would be from 12 noon to sunset. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Mr. Prickett went on to present the recommendations for rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe. These recommendations are as follows:

Rails:	Nov. 17-Jan. 20	65 days	15
Gallinules:	Nov. 17-Jan. 20	65 days	15
Woodcock :	Dec. 1-Feb. 3	65 days	5
Snipe:	Nov. 10-Feb. 24	107 days	8

Shooting hours would be 1/2 hours before sunrise to sunset.

Chairman Pol asked if there were any comments for the audience or any questions by the Commission.

Chairman Pol called for motion. Mr. Jones made a motion to adopt the recommended dates, days, bag limits and shooting hours for rails, gallinules, woodcock and snipe as presented by Mr. Prickett.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison **Announced the 1991 LA Duck Stamp Competition.** ~~Mr. Morrison announced the 1991 Duck Stamp Competition.~~ The species that has been chosen as the featured species for the design is the woodduck. The competition rules and regulations are unchanged from last year but the artist will be given ~~a little bit~~ ^{extra} more time to ~~paint~~ their paintings and the artwork will have to be in by October 25th. The judging of the competition is being planned for November 1st. Mr. Morrison pointed out that November 1st is the first Thursday of the month which is usually the first day of the Commission meeting and he would like to have the competition to judge the artwork on the morning of November 1st and announce the winner at 1 p.m. prior to the Commission meeting. The artwork will be set up in the Louisiana Room so that people may view it prior to the announcement of the winner. This is something Mr. Morrison would like the Commission to consider. They can either have it on the 1st or the Wednesday prior to it. The woodduck was chosen because it is a resident bird and probably one of the most attractive of the North American waterfowl species. Mr. Jones asked if the competition was only for Louisiana artist) and the status of the bill on the legislature on residency requirements. Mr. Morrison advised that the Louisiana artist requirements will be continued for an additional two years but there was an amendment to the bill that says it may include former residents of the state which opens it

up a little bit. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Morrison what his feelings were about the Louisiana artist stipulation and what kind of effect it will have monetarily on the duck stamp program. Mr. Morrison stated that ~~if you look at~~ the history of the duck stamp program *shows that the* ~~these~~ states that have started out commissioning an artist are the ones with the most profitable programs. Texas and Arkansas are two states that commission their artists. The second most effective mechanism for choosing the artwork is by national competition where the competition is opened to everybody across the United States. The third method, which Louisiana has, is residency requirements where only residents of the state can enter the competition. Mr. Morrison stated that monetarily speaking, Texas started out their first-of-state in excess of sixteen thousand prints, with the second year falling off to about eight thousand and have leveled off to between seven and eight thousand prints per year. Typically the number of prints sold of duck stamp designs are directly proportional to the notoriety of the artist, pointed out Mr. Morrison. In Louisiana, last year, a record was set for first-of-state with an excess of seventeen thousand prints being sold. The preliminary indications for next year is that the number of prints sold will be below twenty five hundred. What is being looked at over the long run is that with the continued residency requirements the state will continue to see a decline in the market because the bulk of the prints last year were sold nationally. Of the seventeen to eighteen thousand that were sold there were only around five thousand sold in Louisiana and with the first-of-state

gone the national market will decline leaving resident purchases to be relied on, explained Mr. Morrison. By maintaining an artist that has a national recognition, print sales continue to be high. Mr. Morrison stated that the bottomline is, with the residency requirements, the prints sales will decline in the state in the next three to four years to around five hundred and it will not generate any substantial funds for the program. The bulk of the money that will be generated from the program will be from the sale of stamps to duck hunters, commented Mr. Morrison. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Morrison if what he is saying is that a national contest, with Louisiana artists being able to enter, would create a larger ray of artists, and that Mr. Morrison feels confident that the state would benefit in receiving more money through the print program. Mr. Morrison answered very much so, simply because the competition will have to be the best and the artwork will maintain a higher level. If you ~~go with~~ residency ^{is} ~~requirements~~ ^d the artists realize they are competing among themselves and a lot of times they might not put forth their greatest efforts, but if there is a national competition, not only Louisiana artists are allowed to compete but also artists from outside will be competing. This would keep the spirit of competition alive. Mr. Jones stated that it is a fair statement in saying that the department thinks that it is probably a detriment to the duck stamp and print program to have Louisiana artists only in it, that fewer funds would be received than possibly if there was a national contest. Mr. Morrison answered that in his judgment the program will suffer with the residency

requirements. It was pointed out by Mr. Jones and Mr. Morrison that this would not exclude Louisiana artists but if it were a nationwide contest it would be in the best interest of Louisiana artists simply because if ^{a Louisiana artist} he wins he would be the best of the best. With the residency requirements that are now in effect, if a Louisiana artist wins he has only competed against Louisiana artists and is not really certain what his statute is but when he competes against the national level it adds credit to his stock. Mr. McCall asked how many artists competed last year. The first year it was forty-five and last year it was forty-eight, answered Mr. Morrison. Concluding, Mr. Morrison asked the Commission what their feelings were on the date for the competition and if it would create any problem. Chairman Pol stated that he does not see where any problems would be created and that the date was fine.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Dave Morrison gave a **Report on the 1990 Turkey Season Results and held the Drawing for Guns**. Mr. Morrison informed the Commission that there will be a drawing for shotguns as a result of the voluntary check station. The shotguns are 870 Remington Expresses which have been donated by three Wild Turkey chapters in the state. These chapters are the Cenla Fantails, Alexandria, the Northcentral Chapter, Ruston, and the Four Rivers Chapter, Jonesville. The names that will be drawn appeared on the voluntary check forms that were distributed across the state to check in wild turkeys. There were approximately fifteen hundred ~~and~~ twenty turkeys weighed in last year which represents 20-25

Federation

percent of the total harvest. At this point during the meeting the drawing for the shotguns took place. Those winning numbers were: 690 - Mr. Jeff Hunter, Baton Rouge, LA; 560 -Mr. J. A. Givens, Wilma (Tangipahoa), LA; 1469 - Monti Perritt, Arcadia, LA. Concluding, Mr. Morrison informed the Commission that the department will contact the winners.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Tommy Prickett reported on the **Land Acquisition Program**. Mr. Prickett informed the Commission that the department has been working on obtaining two tracts of land for almost two years. One tract is about five hundred acres which joins Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area and the other tract joins Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area. The Pointe-au-Chien tract will join the now divided wildlife management area together, pointed out Mr. Prickett. Both of these tracts of land were acquired by the Nature Conservancy in behalf of the department. The department is now in a position to acquire the lands back from the Nature Conservancy which will require~~d~~ action from the Commission. Mr. Prickett explained the new mechanics involved in purchasing land. In the past the Secretary of the department had the unqualified authority to buy land at any price[?] agreed on with a willing seller. Act 282 in last years legislature changed this and now the Commissioner of Administration is required to be a part of any land transaction. To be sure that there is balance on all deeds henceforth not only will the names of the Secretary and Commissioner of Administration appear on the document

but also the Chairman of the Commission. This is the reason why this resolution is being presented to the Commission today and in the future the department will be asking the Commission to approve any land that is acquired in the form of a resolution rather than verbally, stated Mr. Prickett. Dr. Hines asked how much was paid for the land. Mr. Prickett answered around two hundred and forty thousand dollars for five hundred ~~and~~ four acres at Loggy Bayou and seven hundred ~~and~~ sixty eight thousand dollars for the seventeen hundred ~~and~~ ninety nine acres at Pointe-au-Chien. Tracts were purchased based on appraisals. Both tracts were acquired from the Nature Conservancy. Chairman Pol called for a motion. Mr. Jones made a motion to accept the resolution for purchasing lands for the Loggy Bayou WMA and the Pointe-au-Chien WMA. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these

wildlife resources, and

WHEREAS, the Department and the State have been previously authorized funding to acquire 1,799.38 acres in Terrebonne Parish as part of the Pointe-au-Chien Wildlife Management Area and 504.03 acres in Bossier Parish as part of Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to take such steps as necessary to complete the acquisition of these tracts of wildlife habitat.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries

Comm.



Mr. Prickett went on to present the next resolution on a land donation of six hundred ~~and~~ eighty acres near the city of Monroe. A most generous lady named Floy McElroy Henry has a beautiful piece of wildlife habitat and she wants to insure that the land will be managed from now on the way that she is currently managing it, stated Mr. Prickett. For this reason, Mrs. McElroy Henry has offered to donate this property to the department and this resolution will authorize the Secretary and the Chairman to accept

the donation, explained Mr. Prickett. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to accept the six hundred ~~and~~ eighty acres being donated by Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry near the city of Monroe. The motion was seconded by Dr. Hines and passed unanimously. Mr. Jones asked Mr. Prickett to thank Mrs. Henry from the Commission. Mr. Prickett stated that he has talked with Secretary Van Sickle and she was going to ask the Commission if they would like to have one of the early fall Commission meetings in north Louisiana where a dedication ceremony could be scheduled ~~and~~ ^{to} give Mrs. Henry some recognition. The Commission stated that this would be fine.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution

Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

July 5-6, 1990

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission supports the acquisition of property to provide habitat for resident and migratory wildlife as well as public enjoyment of these resources, and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry has offered the donation of 680.96 acres of productive wildlife habitat known as the White Island

Plantation in Richland Parish to insure that these acres will be forever managed to benefit the wildlife resources and public of Louisiana, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission authorizes the Chairman and the Secretary to accept this donation of property from Mrs. Floy McElroy Henry, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon receipt of this generous donation the tract shall be dedicated as the Floy Ward McElroy Wildlife Management Area.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Dept. Wildlife & Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Comm.

the
ment
At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver presented a **Notice of Intent for the Fur Harvest Season**. Mr. Tarver informed the Commission that as of this date he could not give a report on the last fur seasons because the audits have not been completed and they were having difficulty receiving, from the Sheriff's Offices, the exact number of licenses that were sold. Mr. Tarver presented a resolution and a notice of intent to the Commission for the ~~established~~ of 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season. The South Zone will be December 1 - February 28; the North Zone will be November 20 - February 15. There will be an experimental season from February

16 - March 15 for padded jaw traps. Mr. Jones asked about the latest status on padded jaw traps and people refusing the purchase of hides from improper traps. Mr. Tarver commented that the business of fur trapping has come under attack by the animal rights groups of various types. There was a referendum passed at a meeting held in Aspen, Colorado and it won two to one to allow the sale of furs taken by steel jaw leghold traps. There is a move in the European community, the EEC, to ban the use of products caught with a steel jaw leghold traps. Last year the EEC tried through a resolution, through the Trade Commission of England, to prevent the sale of furs taken by the use of steel jaw leghold traps in England which failed and now they are coming back to go through the whole community. Canada and the U.S. have been fighting this battle all along and will continue to do so. The animal rights activists have had some limited impact in terms of the fur sale. If the ability is lost to trap animals in Louisiana the main control of the exotic rodents (nutria) will be lost. Research is being continued on the soft jaw (padded) trap and part of the ~~purpose~~ by having the extension of trapping season is to allow this trap to be used, stated Mr. Tarver.

A motion was made by Dr. Hines to adopt the resolution and notice of intent on the 1990-91 fur harvest season. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution

is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

JULY 5, 1990

1990-91 FUR HARVEST SEASON

WHEREAS, The fur industry of Louisiana presents a major potential resource of economy and income for many of the citizens of our state; and

WHEREAS, This resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase the importance in our state; and

WHEREAS, An annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping with recognized wildlife management techniques based on scientific management; and

WHEREAS, Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority concerning out-of-state shipment of otter and bobcat furs will require placement of a possession tag by trappers, buyers, or dealers to insure state of origin; and

WHEREAS, The zonation concept has continued to be beneficial in reducing late caught unprime furs and has produced mainly favorable comments generated within the fur industry;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby give notice of its intent to establish the 1990-91 Fur Harvest Season within the State of Louisiana. The Notice of Intent attached to and made part of this Resolution is hereby approved.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the notice of
intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The fur industry of Louisiana is the result of a major wildlife resource and provides supplemental income for many of the citizens of our state: and as this resource is a renewable natural one, which has proven under wise management to increase in importance; annual harvest of the surplus animals is in keeping

with sound wildlife management principles.

The creation of a north and south trapping zone continues to allow for the most efficient harvest of prime furbearers in these two diverse habitat types within the state. Therefore, the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the south zone as being December 1, 1990 through February 28, 1991. After carefully considering the market situation for some upland species, especially the raccoon, the Department, in an attempt to provide more opportunity for trapping of bobcat and fox after deer hunting seasons are closed, does hereby establish the 1990-91 furbearer trapping season for the north zone as November 20, 1990 through February 15, 1991, with the addition of an experimental season in the north zone from February 16, 1991 through March 15, 1991, with trapping techniques restricted to the use of Soft-Catch traps (padded jaw traps) or their equivalent. The Department Secretary shall be authorized to close or extend the trapping season in any portion of the state as biologically justifiable.

Federal restrictions imposed by the CITES Scientific Authority for otter and bobcat furs continue to require attachment of an export tag on each of these species prior to out-of-state shipment.

The regulations governing the annual statewide trapping program adopted for the 1990-91 trapping season may be viewed at Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, phone: (504) 765-2811.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed

rule to Johnnie Tarver, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-9000.

CITATION: None - Changes Annually.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:260.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren Pol
Chairman

Chairman Pol requested Mr. Tarver to call Mr. Roger Vincent, Jr. and give him the dates for alligator season.

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Johnnie Tarver presented a **Emergency Declaration for the Alligator Harvest Program, Wild Harvest and the Notice of intent for the Alligator Harvest Program Regulations.** Mr. Tarver presented a resolution for a emergency declaration to set the alligator harvest season. This resolution will set in place the alligator season that will begin September 1 and close September 30. Mr. Tarver explained the document pertaining to the rules and regulations on the alligator harvest program. The only change in the document is the twenty five dollar fee for persons picking up alligator eggs. The persons picking up the eggs are told exactly how many eggs can be picked up and on what property they can pick them up on. A resolution was presented by Mr. Tarver for the notice of intent on the alligator harvest program regulations. The Fur and Alligator Council and the Alligator Task Force has concurred with these documents along with Legal Division,

and Enforcement Division stated Mr. Tarver.

Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made to adopt the two resolutions, emergency declaration and notice of intent on the alligator harvest program by Mr. McCall. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution is
made a part of the record)

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

JULY 5, 1990

1990-91 ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS AND SEASON

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish an alligator season; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The removal of the surplus animals is considered to be a wise use of this natural resource of the State of Louisiana;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt the emergency regulations for administering all aspects of the 1990 alligator season which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the declaration
of emergency is made a part of the
record) 4/0

Did not print in draft ~~was 20 pages~~ /ong

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

RESOLUTION

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

ALLIGATOR REGULATIONS

JULY 5, 1990

WHEREAS, The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has the authority under State and Federal Statute to establish alligator regulations; and

WHEREAS, The alligator population in Louisiana has been determined by biologists of the Department to be capable of sustaining an annual harvest of surplus animals; and

WHEREAS, The alligator farming program is regulated by the Department through regulations enacted by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby adopt regulations for administering all aspects of the alligator program which are attached and made part of this resolution.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

Warren Pol
Chairman

(The full text of the notice of
intent is made a part of the record)

Did not print in draft ~~pg~~ pg 1/17

At Thursday's meeting Mr. Phil Bowman presented a **Declaration of**

Emergency for the Opening of the Fall Inshore "White" Shrimp Season. Mr. Bowman presented a resolution establishing the opening of the fall inshore white shrimp season. The season will open on the third Monday in August which ~~will be~~^{is} August 20 for Zones 1, 2, and 3 at 6 a.m. The Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will have the authority granted by the Commission to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any areas or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so. Mr. Vujnovich asked Mr. Bowman if August 20 was not kind of late to be opening the season^s. Mr Bowman stated that this is the third Monday in August, which is not set by legislation, and the Commission has total flexibility irregardless of any dates on the setting of this season. Mr. Bowman did some legal research as to how these frameworks were set and since 1920 the opening of the fall season has been somewhere around mid-August. Since 1958 it has been the third Monday in August and the staff recommendation for this year is that this be continued. The way the calendar falls this date is almost the latest possible date, stated Mr. Bowman. Mr. Vujnovich explained why he had asked Mr. Bowman this question. He has had calls from shrimpers telling him they would appreciate it if the season could be opened sooner due to the fact of the size and number of shrimp. Mr. Bowman stated that there is a mechanism in the resolution that can accommodate this but at this particular point ⁱⁿ ~~and~~ time it is the staff's recommendation to the Commission that the season be opened on the third Monday in August.

Chairman Pol called for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jones that the Commission adopt the resolution and declaration of emergency opening the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season on August 20 in Zones 1, 2, and 3, at 6 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Vujnovich and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record)

Resolution
1990 Fall Inshore Shrimp Season
adopted by the
Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission
July 5, 1990 - Baton Rouge, Louisiana

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each year for all inside waters, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:967 states that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission may employ the provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) when setting the shrimp season thereby allowing the most recent technical data be considered in determining the opening and closing dates, and

WHEREAS, R.S. 56:497 provides that the Commission shall fix no less than two open shrimp seasons each year for all inside waters, and

WHEREAS, Historically biological sampling conducted by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries has shown white shrimp in coastal Louisiana average 100 count minimum size or larger as provided for in R.S. 56:498 by mid-August each year, and

WHEREAS, Historically the fall inshore "white" shrimp season opened on the third Monday in August, and

WHEREAS, In 1990 the third Monday in August will be August 20.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby set the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2, and 3 at 6 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission does hereby authorize the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary
LA Wildlife & Fisheries

Warren Pol, Chairman
LA Wildlife & Fisheries Comm.

(The full text of the emergency declaration is made a part of the record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953 and 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:497, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following rule:

Effective at 6:00 a.m. on Monday, August 20, 1990, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby set the 1990 fall inshore "white" shrimp season to open in Shrimp Management Zones 1, 2, and 3 and authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to modify or close the 1990 fall inshore white shrimp season in any area or zone when biological and technical data indicates the need to do so.

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Warren Pol
Chairman

Mr. Bowman proceeded to bring the Commission up to date on the

closing of the spring inshore season. The department recommended that the season be closed in Zone 2 on June 28 which it was. There is a significant recruitment of juvenile white shrimp in the other areas of the state and as a result of this, with Secretary Van Sickle's concurrence, the shrimp season in Zones 1 and 3 will close at 12.01 a.m. Wednesday, July 11, 1990 with no exceptions, announced Mr. Bowman. The Breton - Chandeleur Sound will close due to some hydrological conditions in the area, namely some freshwater input, and juvenile white shrimp in the western portion of the sound are being seen, stated Mr. Bowman.

Chairman Pol asked how the shrimp season was so far. Mr. Bowman advised that the department thinks, based on the information that has been received so far and without the June landings, that the brown shrimp portion of the season this year will be one of the better seasons. For the month of May there was over twenty one million pounds of shrimp landed in Louisiana which might be a record stated Mr. Bowman and informed the Commission that they had just returned from a meeting in Galveston, Texas with the people from the National Marines Fisheries Service and it has been projected that the brown shrimp season west of the Mississippi in Louisiana will be somewhere in the neighborhood of sixty million pounds which is about three times the historical average. It looks like it has been a good brown shrimp season, concluded Mr. Bowman.

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Clark asked Mr. Barney Barrett to give

a brief **Report on the Mega Borg Oil Spill**. Mr. Barrett, Geologist with the Office of Fisheries, reported that when the Mega Borg first broke up it was burning and the oil was confined to Texas. Around June 16 samples were taken from around Holly Beach, west of Calcasieu Pass, which turned out to be from the Mega Borg. Dr. Overton at LSU, world expert on hydrocarbon analysis, did the analysis. The department personnel have been sampling in Calcasieu and they took oil samples from the lower ship channel and additional samples from the beach with most of these turning out to be Mega Borg oil. Sixty samples were taken yesterday from the oyster reef in the lower Calcasieu area and some of these are in Dr. Overton's office now, advised Mr. Barrett. Tar balls were found from the beach at Grand Isle westward to the Texas-Louisiana line. The furthest to the east that Mega Borg oil was found was near the mouth of the Mergentau. The samples that were taken at Grand Isle, Chandeleur and Freshwater Bayou have not been analyzed. At this point it is an expense on the wildlife department and cost seven hundred dollars to analyze an ~~oyster~~ sample. About five thousands worth of samples will be done on the oyster areas advised Mr. Barrett. The consensus of NOAA and the other federal agencies are that there is not much Mega Borg oil in Louisiana and once the results are in from the oyster area the department will let the Commission know stated Mr. Barrett.

oil
dollars

Mr. McCall asked Mr. Barrett from what he knows at this time has there been any damage in Louisiana from the Mega Borg. Mr. Barrett

stated that from ^{what} they know now there has not been but there has been sightings of dead turtles ^{of} which NOAA believes died from other causes and not the oil. Mr. McCall asked if any of the oil went up into the Calcasieu Ship Channel and how far north did it go. Mr. Barrett answered yes and it was sampled just at the intersection of the lower part of Calcasieu where it broadens out and was analyzed at Mega Borg oil. Mr. McCall asked if it ^{where} ~~was~~ a possibility that some of the oil got into the lake. Mr. Barrett answered yes there is. Mr. Vujnovich asked if the oyster ^{have} had any oil taste in them. Mr. Barrett stated that he did not know, they were brought in frozen to Dr. Overton. Chairman Pol thanked Mr. Barrett for his report.

At Thursday's meeting Dr. Jerry Clark presented a **Declaration of Emergency and Notice of Intent on Jewfish Closure**. Dr. Clark informed the Commission that the issue today is a relatively minor one and the Commission should be familiar with it because they have been dealing with it for about a year. It has to do with the federal reef fish plan and amendments that have taken place. One of the things mentioned to the Commissioners at the Monroe meeting was that there was a followup action by the National Marine Fisheries Service on Jewfish and that it looked like they were going to be proposing a emergency closure on the jewfish. This closure is now in place and the department is following up with a Louisiana closure, advised Dr. Clark. The department has both an emergency declaration and a notice of intent on the jewfish

closure. The emergency declaration will be effective in seventy-two hours. The notice of intent will give notice to closure on jewfish starting on November 1, 1990 to October 31, 1993 for a three year period.

Chairman Pol called for motion. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins to adopt the declaration of emergency and notice of intent on the jewfish closure. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the Declaration
of Emergency is made a part of the
record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(b), the Administrative Procedure Act; R.S. 49:967 which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set finfish seasons and size limits and all rules and regulations pursuant thereto, and R.S. 56:22 which authorizes the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to prohibit the taking of any species of fish for not more than the three year period, when it deems it for the best interest of the state; the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries

Commission finds that imminent peril to the public welfare exists, hereby declares an emergency and adopts the following rule:

EMERGENCY RULE

Pursuant to R.S. 56:22, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters. The emergency rule shall become effective 12:00 noon, Monday July 9, 1990, and shall expire upon the effective date of the final rule. The final rule shall expire upon October 31, 1993.

Warren I. Pol

Chairman

(The full text of the Notice of
Intent is made a part of the record)

NOTICE OF INTENT

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby expresses intent to adopt rules and regulations to prohibit the harvest and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) within or

without Louisiana's territorial waters. The measures are to be consistent with federal regulations which were designed to restore the declining jewfish resource.

The proposed rule will read as follows:

Title 76

Wildlife and Fisheries

Part VII Fish and Other Aquatic Life

Chapter 3. Saltwater Sport and Commercial Fishing

Section 337. Taking and Possession of Jewfish Prohibited

The Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby prohibits the taking and possession of jewfish (Epinephelus itajara) from within or without Louisiana waters for the three year period November 1, 1990 to October 31, 1993.

Authority for adoption of this rule is contained in Section 22 of Title 56 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Interested persons may submit comments relative to the proposed rule to : John E. Roussel, Marine Fish Division, Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, P.O. Box 98000, Baton Rouge,

LA 70898-9000.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:22.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, L.R. 16: (1990).

Warren I. Pol
Chairman

The *the Fur and* **Monthly Law Enforcement Report** for June was given by Charlie Clark at Thursday's meeting. Mr. Clark reported the following cases made: Region I - 160 cases; Region II - 121 cases; Region III - 149 cases; Region IV - 103 cases; Region V - 295 cases; Region VI - 195; Region VII - 342; Region VIII - 322; Region IX - 210.

the Fur and Mr. Clark advised that in Region VIII there was a case dealing with seizure of pelican eggs. This was a case originally ^{two weeks} setup as a complaint with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and department personnel from Refuge Division who helped the Service. This has been a highly controversial case, stated Mr. Clark and will be filed both ways, state and federal.

The Rip Tide and Delta Tide had two hundred and forty eight running hours and checked a hundred and fifty nine boats, had sixty three

cases all of which were trawling in closed season except for six which were oversized double rigs.

Mr. Clark advised that a new release will be coming out on the Undercover Section telling of a statewide sweep that involves the illicit sale of fish and wildlife. This involves twenty-seven people that are non-related cases and the investigation covers almost a two year period which involved a lot of buys.

Mr. Jenkins asked about DWI's on boats, the boating accident on False River where the boat hit the pier and if the department was involved. Mr. Clark advised yes, the department is the primary agency. Mr. Jenkins asked since the person left the scene of the accident can he be charged with a DWI. Mr. Clark stated no, not under the circumstances but in many cases this is better than catching him and putting him on a machine because now there are witnesses who put him drinking and how much he drank which can be used in court. Mr. Clark went on to report on the Oyster Strike Force. They made fifty-eight cases last month and seized 16 sacks of oysters, two speckled trout, black drum, a flat boat, two outboard motors, eight gill nets and one oyster dredge.

At Thursday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle discussed the **Facilitation Process for Deer Season Framework**. Secretary Van Sickle advised that at the last Commission meeting Mr. Wade Byrd presented a very brief summary of a facilitation conflict

resolution process that was used in one of the west coast states to resolve a controversy over elk hunting similar to a controversy in Louisiana between persons who hunt with dogs and those who still hunt. Mr. Byrd has been in direct discussion with several of the Commissioners, one on one, to expand the facilitation process proposal as requested at the last meeting. In each of the Commissioner's folder there was a copy of the expanded version of the structured facilitation process for setting deer season every year and Secretary Van Sickle reviewed the process with the Commissioners. There are three reasons for instituting this process. 1) Attempt to get the Commission and department out of the middle of resource allocation issues. 2) Work toward more stabilized regulations. 3) Educate those involved in the process. There are basically five steps on how this conflict resolution process will work. The formation of an advisory group who will identify data need. The group will consist of eleven or twelve people made up of representatives from still hunters, dog hunters, landowners, Commissioners, House, and Senate. The first meeting would be held during the fall. The data needs identified by the group will be collected and compiled by technical staff within the department. Data collection should be completed by January 1. ~~Set up statewide~~ ^{will be set up statewide} ~~interactive workshops~~ ^{for} consisting of a series of ten statewide workshops and will be scheduled one per night for two weeks. Participation in the workshops will be encouraged by allowing everyone who participated to have a vote on the final proposal. Participants are allowed to vote on what they think are

the most important issues and best solutions. The facilitators will be from the Information and Education Division of the department. These workshops will be held in late January. The data obtained in the workshops will be compiled, summarized and distributed to all workshop participants by department staff. Participants will be allowed time to comment to members of the advisory group. The advisory group, after receiving comments from workshop participants, will by consensus, develop a five year season proposal or alternatives to be presented to workshop participants for a vote. The proposal should be developed by February. Ballots will be mailed to participants by department staff with a specific time period to receive responses. Results will be tabulated by mid-March. This will require a little bit of money on the department's part. Upon completion of review Secretary Van Sickle asked for input from the Commission on this process.

Dr. Hines stated that after he had thought about the process it looks like it might be a little overkill. This is a good process and some of it needs to be done, commented Dr. Hines. For this coming year Dr. Hines suggested that the Commission consider compromising and stopping after compiling and collecting data before going to the workshops. The recommendations will be made to the Commission Hunting Committee. If this does not work for next year then go with the full process, stated Dr. Hines. Resident game was never a problem when there was a structured season that the hunters knew of in advance, pointed out Dr. Hines.

The biggest problem is the rumor mill on the season dates. Back when the deer season for Area II opened nineteen days before Thanksgiving and Area I opened five days before Thanksgiving Dr. Hines stated that he believes that there were very few at the public hearings that commented one way or the other about this. Even when hunting with dogs from the Saturday following Thanksgiving to the first Saturday in December there was a little bit of comment but not much. These were structured seasons when the hunters knew when they were going to hunt, what the seasons were, etc. Dr. Hines recommended that an advisory group be formed, let them identify the data needs from the department, compile and collect the data, present it to the Hunting Committee prior to the public hearings with the recommendations for the hunting season for 1991, let the people who come to the public hearings comment on this and go from there. If this does not work after the first year then proceed towards the workshops stated Dr. Hines. Secretary Van Sickle commented that this would be different but at least this is a step towards getting public input and will give the dog hunters and still hunters an opportunity to make recommendations to the Commission. The recommendation for the advisory group is three dog hunters, three still hunters, two landowners, two Commissioners, one member of the House to be appointed by the Speaker, and one member of the Senate appointed by the President. Chairman Pol asked that everyone think about this and it will be brought ^{up} ~~back~~ at Friday's meeting.

At Friday's meeting the facilitation process for deer season framework was discussed further. Chairman Pol advised that Dr. Hines had some suggestions that maybe the process was going to far in the beginning. Secretary Van Sickle stated that if the Commission and department are going to do anything different this coming year then preparations would have to be made to have some meetings this fall, and if the Commission could make a decision this month or in August this would allow for an advisory group to be set up. Dr. Hines summarized the recommendation that he had given at Thursday's meeting which was basically ^{to} form an advisory group of twelve people to work on solving the problems with the deer season and the differences between the dog hunters and the still hunters. ~~and let this group meet and~~ ^{can} make recommendations to the Hunting Committee of the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission prior to the public hearings and that way with the Game Division's input a recommendation could be made of a possible resident game season framework. ~~and this~~ ⁺ could be discussed at the public hearings where input could be obtained from the hunters and citizens of the state, ~~then come back~~ ^{then} and finalize a ~~final~~ hunting season framework after the public hearings. Dr. Hines made a motion that the structured facilitation process during the first three phases (formation of advisory group, identify data needs/compile and collect data and advisory group report to the Hunting Committee prior to the public hearings on hunting which would begin in February 1991) be adopted.

Chairman Pol asked with the implementation of this process would there still be a need for the public hearings around the state. Dr. Hines advised that he thought there would but at least the hunters would know what the recommendations were and could discuss them. Discussion should be very limited and other things could be taken up that would be beneficial to the department, stated Dr. Hines.

Mr. Jenkins seconded Dr. Hines motion and commented that when he first looked at this process he was not sure of it but he has talked with Mr. Wade Byrd and the more he listened the more sense it made. When ~~you~~^{it} go^{so} beyond what the Commission is talking about today ~~you~~^{it} do get into a lot of expense and people in trying to make it work. Mr. Jenkins asked Secretary Van Sickle if she thought it would work or be effective without going through the whole process. Secretary Van Sickle stated that she did not think it would be as effective as going through the whole process but believes good information would be obtained from the advisory group. You may go through the ten workshops and still not have a whole lot of consensus but consensus can be probably be obtained by the advisory group. Dr. Hines stated that if what he has recommended does not work then there is the alternative to go through the whole process, but if it works there has been a lot of time and effort saved.

Secretary Van Sickle advised the Commission that members for the advisory group the department could attempt to identify the still

hunters and dog hunters that would best represent these two groups. For the landowners the head of the Landowners Association could serve. Dr. Hines suggested that each organization nominate six people and three be picked. The Commission will be represented by Dr. Hines and Mr. Jones. Secretary Van Sickle will take care of obtaining names for the group from the legislature.

Chairman Pol stated that he thought he understood that the formation of the advisory group was to stabilize the hunting seasons. Secretary Van Sickle commented that if some way to stabilize the hunting season could be constructed everybody would benefit from it. Chairman Pol called for a vote on the motion made by Dr. Hines and seconded by Mr. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.

At Thursday's meeting Chairman Pol advised that items number four, fourteen, seventeen and eighteen will be brought before the Commission on Friday because under Other Business Mr. Jenkins has something he wants to bring before the Commission. Mr. Jones made a motion that the rules be suspended with a two-thirds vote so that Mr. Jenkins could bring before the Commission a **Resolution for the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission relative to Dr. Jerry Clark**. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed with Mr. Vujnovich abstaining. Mr. Jenkins advised that there has been some recent negative publicity on some work that Dr. Clark has done, some misquotes in some articles and in Mr. Jenkins' opinion a lot of

this misinformation has been added to by people around the state and has created some unnecessary publicity for the department and Dr. Clark. What prompted Mr. Jenkins to request that the Commission pass a resolution on this was a recent action of the Shrimp Task Force. Mr. Jenkins proceeded to read the letter that Mr. Ted Sheppard, Chairman of Shrimp Task Force, wrote to Secretary Van Sickle on June 26, 1990. "The Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has voted to request that you replace Mr. Jerry Clark as you delegate to the task force. The next meeting of the task force is in early August and we will need someone by then. If you have any questions contact me at your convenience." Mr. Jenkins then read the resolution that he proposed to the Commission. Chairman Pol stated that before any action is taken on this he would like to ask Secretary Van Sickle what her feelings were. Secretary Van Sickle stated that she was disappointed when she received the letter stating the actions of the Shrimp Task Force. Secretary Van Sickle feels that the Chief Fishery Officer for the state should be closely tied to any actions of the task force and work with them in solving some of the problems that are facing the shrimping industry. Dr. Clark has been at ~~virtually~~ ^{but one of} all their meetings and he has stood by them and worked very hard to get money for the Shrimp Management Plan. He has stuck by his staff on the openings of the seasons, etc. and Secretary Van Sickle stated that she is not aware of anything that Dr. Clark has done that has warranted such action on behalf of the Shrimp Task Force. Secretary Van Sickle informed the Commission that she went with the ~~shrimpers~~ ^{shrimp industry,}

primarily processors and dealers, to the Governor to create the Shrimp Task Force and stated that she has mixed emotions at this point. Secretary Van Sickle does not want to do anything that would cause the task force not to meet anymore but on the other hand she does not think she would be doing them any favor by pulling Dr. Clark from the task force either. At this point Secretary Van Sickle advised that she agrees with the Commission's recommendation showing support for Dr. Clark. Dr. Clark is a non-voting member of the task force as Vice-Chairman and normally a group elects a Chairman rather than having one appointed for them and this is something that the department might want to work with the task force on but beyond this Secretary Van Sickle does not see any other answers but to continue to plug away at working with the shrimp industry to develop the Shrimp Management Plan, setting the best seasons that can possibly be set and basically following the same course that Dr. Clark has for over a year, working with the shrimp industry. ^{he} Chairman Pol stated that even though ^{though} the task force was created by the Governor, the Shrimp Task Force has got to get along with the Commission and does not believe the task force is in any position to dictate to the Commission as to what to do and the Commission feels the same way that Secretary Van Sickle feels. Chairman Pol asked Secretary Van Sickle what was the reason of the task force for not wanting Dr. Clark to serve. Secretary Van Sickle stated that they did not give any reasons why Dr. Clark should not represent the department and asked Ms. Jane Black if she knew the reasons. Ms. Black was at the Shrimp Task Force meeting

as a voting proxy when this action took place. Secretary Van Sickie announced that Ms. Black has been appointed as a new member of the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council. Ms. Black stated that attending the meeting at which the vote was cast if you could sum it up in any single sentence it would be that the fishermen felt a break in a sense of having a confidence in his ability to represent them because of the bad ^{article} ~~press~~ and the fact that he did not recant in an immediate public fashion.

Chairman Pol called for motion on the resolution. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the Commission adopt the resolution supporting Dr. Clark. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed with Mr. Vujnovich abstaining, reason being he does not feel that he knows Dr. Clark well enough to vote on such an issue.

(The full text of the resolution
is made a part of the record

LOUISIANA WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, because of recent negative publicity generated by a newspaper article which misquotes Dr. Jerry Clark, Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fisheries, relative to certain fisheries information, it is the intention of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to inform

the public that Dr. Clark was misquoted and the media should correct the misinformation; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Shrimp Task Force has recently voted to request that Dr. Clark be replaced as the Department's delegate to the Shrimp Task Force; and

WHEREAS, this Commission takes strong exception to the actions of the Shrimp Task Force and wishes to voice its support for Dr. Clark; and

WHEREAS, this Commission recognizes that Dr. Clark has acted professionally and in the best interests of management of Louisiana fisheries, both commercial and recreational.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this Commission does hereby urge the Secretary of the Department to retain Dr. Clark as its delegate to the Shrimp Task Force.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Commission does hereby commend Dr. Clark for his efforts as Assistant Secretary for the Office of Fisheries.

Warren I. Pol, Chairman

Virginia Van Sickle, Secretary

Secretary Van Sickle requested that another item of business be acted upon by the Commission. This item will be presented by Dr. Clark. Secretary Van Sickle advised that this ^{dealt} deal with a **Resolution passed by the House of Representatives dealing with the Black Drum Rule.** Mr. Jones made a motion that the rules be suspended with a two-thirds vote to bring before the Commission the issue of the minimum legal size of the black drum rule and a resolution by the house. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously. Dr. Clark addressed the Commission and stated that before he gets into the black drum issue he would like to thank the Commission and the Secretary for their support and resolution. Dr. Clark stated that if he has made some mistakes he will apologize for them but will not apologize for the attempts he has made to do the job that he was hired to do and do it as professionally as he can.

Dr. Clark advised that the black drum issue is one that has been with the Commission for almost a year and reminded the Commission that they had passed a notice of intent to do a permanent rule on black drum. Since that time the House Natural Resources Committee scheduled an oversight hearing and the department was told that the purpose of the oversight hearing was for at least one, if not more members of the committee to object to parts of the notice of intent. The hearing was scheduled on the Thursday before the end of the June. The issue~~d~~ was scheduled as the last order of

business of the day and it never came up, advised Dr. Clark. This resolution has been passed since that day and states that it is a good rule that the Commission is proposing, pointed out Dr. Clark. This resolution directs the Commission to change by emergency rule the minimum legal size for the commercial taking of black drum from eighteen to sixteen inches total length. The permanent rule will go into place on September 1, 1990. Dr. Clark recommended that a emergency rule be drafted to change the legal size on black drum for commercial taking. Chairman Pol advised that the emergency rule would be taken up at Friday's meeting.

At Friday^{1st} meeting Dr. Hines made a motion to suspend the rules with a two-thirds vote to bring up the emergency declaration on the black drum. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously. Dr. Clark gave a brief history of the black drum rule and presented an emergency declaration that will suspend the current emergency rule which has an eighteen inch minimum size limit and adopt a new emergency rule that will have a sixteen inch minimum size limit which is the same minimum size limit that has been proposed in the final rule. By adopting the emergency rule today the Commission would be putting in place the sixteen inch minimum size on July 9, 1990 at 12⁰⁰ noon.

Dr. Hines made a motion that the Commission adopt the emergency rule on the sixteen inch minimum size. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jenkins and passed unanimously.

(The full text of the emergency
declaration is made a part of the
record)

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES
WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and 967(D) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:326.1 and 326.3, the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby finds that the current emergency regulations governing the harvest of black drum are not consistent with the proposed permanent rules, which are based on the most recent assessment of the status of the black drum populations in Louisiana and accordingly adopts the following rule:

Effective at 12:00 noon on July 9, 1990, the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby rescinds the current size limits and quotas for black drum which were implemented by emergency rule on February 9, 1990 and establishes a minimum size limit of 16 inches total length for the taking and possession of black drum within and without Louisiana waters. This rule shall remain in effect until September 1, 1990.

Warren I. Pol

Chairman

Chairman Pol called for motion for adjournment. Mr. Jenkins made a motion that the July 5th Commission meeting be adjourned until July 6th at 9 a.m.. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jones and passed unanimously.

At Friday's meeting Secretary Van Sickle gave an **Update on Case Disposition Reports from the District Attorneys** for Mr. Kell McInnis. Secretary Van Sickle reported that Mr. McInnis was with the Governor's staff this morning with Mr. Don Puckett going through some legislative items that have to be attended to today. The disposition reporting form has been changed in accordance with the request of the District Attorney's Association. Two basic

U changes, one is in the format and it states what is Class I type ^{*resolution*} of volitions versus II, III, and IV; the other is there will be a six month report instead of a three month report. At this time, ^{*approximately*} out of ~~the~~ ^{*somewhat*} forty ^{*attorneys*} D.A.'s in the state with some having two parishes per district, all but seven ~~District Attorneys~~ are reporting and expecting one more in today. There is good response at this point from the District Attorneys and with the new reporting format and the new time frame the department feels like ^{*may respond*} ~~they may pull in~~ a few more D.A.'s, pointed out Secretary Van Sickle. If a couple of the District Attorneys refuse to turn in

the reports there is nothing that the department can do about it except let the public know, stated Secretary Van Sickle. Mr. Jones asked which District Attorneys are not complying with the request? Secretary Van Sickle advised that she did not have the list at this point. It was determined that St. Bernard was one of them, and Lafourche another. Chairman Pol suggested that Mr. Vujnovich discuss this with the District Attorney in St. Bernard to see if his office would cooperate in this reporting.

Secretary Van Sickle gave the **Secretary's Report to the Commission** at Thursday's meeting. Secretary Van Sickle reported that there have been many violations involving Vietnamese ^{fishermen}. At the recent Gulf Council meeting in Mobile the National Marine Fisheries Service reported a hundred ~~and~~ twenty ~~something~~ TED violations this past shrimp season with over forty of the violators being Vietnamese shrimpers. The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife are planning to hold a workshop for the Vietnamese to educate them on the laws. This workshop will be held in the Vietnamese language. The ones who have violations will be required to attend and other will be invited.

A very unfortunate incident occurred where a Seismic Section personnel missed a bird rookery and a seismic crew went into a bird rookery at Lake St. Martin destroying about two hundred of approximately thirty thousand nest of white ibis. Secretary Van

Planning
Sickle explained how seismic lines are reviewed and pointed out that the department is not required to go out and look for unique features but ~~being~~ ^{since} the department has the data base it does. *Van Sickle =*

On July 26 in New Orleans at noon the two small properties in New Orleans will be publicly bid. Ms. Baker has checked to make sure that Facility has advertised the buildings properly and an error such as last time would not occur again. The bidding will take place at the main courthouse on Loyola. Secretary suggested that maybe Mr. Vujnovich may want to attend.

The
Another item Secretary Van Sickle discussed was the joint commission meeting between Texas and Louisiana. Information was received from Texas on the agenda and Mr. Travis would like to know if the Commission would like to add anything or delete anything or change schedule for the meeting at San Marcos, Texas at the fish hatchery. Items to be discussed are fishing items, wildlife programs, administrative issues, questions from public. Mr. Jenkins requested that Texas report on their assessment of the effects of the December 1989 freeze on fishing, particularly speckled trout and red fish. Secretary Van Sickle requested that Dr. Clark call Gary Matlock and tell him that Louisiana would like to discuss this item. The Commission will tour the hatchery and attend a fish fry which the Texas Commission is hosting. This will be a one day only meeting and those attending from Louisiana will be ~~going and coming~~ ^{returning} the same day, advised Secretary Van Sickle.

Secretary Van Sickle concluded here report with some legislative items. A lot of times instead of passing a law which would change Title 56 the legislature will instruct the department or Commission through a Concurrent Resolution to do certain things. The department has received three of these. One requires the department to conduct a study to determine the maximum allowable fees that may be charged to non-resident sportsmen,. This is an "urge and" urgent request. Another is to add the Calcasieu River at Cypress Bayou from Highway 28 south to the Scenic Rivers System. This is requested by Mr. McPherson . Another one is to determine the minimum requirements for those persons under the age of sixteen and over the age of sixty to be included in the total numbers of hunters and fishermen that the federal allocations of funding are based upon.

Some things that have become law are:

- 1) A bill making the Natural Heritage Data Base confidential.
- 2) A bill pertaining to Scenic Rivers Declassification which requires an objective analysis of the scenic be conducted by the department before a river can be removed from the system.

Two bills that are pending are:

- 1) A bill removing Big Creek from the Scenic Rivers System.
- 2) A bill removing Bayou Darbonne from the Scenic River System.

House Bill 818 passed which requires the department to work with the Restaurant Association in developing seasons for marine fin fish. ^{ing} Excludes ~~s~~ speckled trout.

Representative Rodney Alexander's bill is still on the Senate floor, House Bill 848 has not passed. (Deer Season)

House Bill 840 the Mariculture Bill which would extend the ^aChermie's operation is enrolled and awaits the Governor's ^{representative are}signature. ~~The~~ Department ^{is} speaking with the Governor's office this very moment about this bill, *she stated.*

Several bills passed and are pending enrollment regarding oyster leasing. There were six bills that were filed by Senator Nunez, Representatives Siracusa and Patti that would basically endorse the current leasing system.

The bill that Colonel Winton Vidrine (1265) has been working on dealing with the Class I violations is still pending on the Senate Floor. Passed the House 94-4 and out of committee without objection. This bill will generate between six hundred to eight hundred thousand dollars for the department. Language in the bill that would require that this money be spent on law enforcement.

^{Representatives} Chris John's bill passed that would allow the department to set seasons under ~~the~~ emergency procedure and after the 120 days have

passed the department would not have to go back and set them again.

Bills were introduced for the oyster industry (Patti) with a couple still pending and couple of them passing. One bill setting the maximum width on oyster dredges six feet has passed. One bill increasing the percent tolerance on dead shell up to ten percent has passed.

Dr. Clark's bill which allows the department to stock trout and have a stamp for rainbow trout passed. These fish would be put in lakes like City Park and has been a very successful program in other states. Hopefully this fall the program will begin.

the Bill on alligator hunting violations that was put forth by the Alligator Task Force was passed and enrolled.

A bill that has passed and enrolled is the bill that would prohibit the use of spotter planes to spot finfish other than herring-like species such as menhaden. The bill was not amended.

Another
~~A bad bill~~ that just passed extends the two year requirement on a resident artist for the Louisiana Duck Stamp Program.

Concluding her report, Secretary Van Sickle asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Jenkins asked about the Scenic Rivers Program. Secretary Van Sickle explained that the department has had the Scenic Rivers Program since 1964 and the task force that was formed is no longer in existence because they did their job and put out a report. There is a Scenic Rivers Section which is supervised by Mr. Blue Watson and he has two people that work with him on the scenic rivers. Mr. Jenkins asked if the Commission could get a report in the next month or two from the Scenic Rivers Section. Secretary Van Sickle stated that this could be done.

At Friday's meeting the **October Meeting Dates** were set. The meeting will be on October 4th and 5th, 1990 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana at the department headquarters.

Chairman Pol stated that he has received about thirty phone calls in the last two weeks relative to the scarcity of speckled trout and requested that Secretary Van Sickle have Mr. John Roussel give a report on the assessment. Dr. Clark advised that sometimes next week his staff is preparing an assessment of the current status of stocks of several species (red drum, black drum, spotted seatrout) on the basis of the most recent information obtained from the nets which will be through May. This will be the first preliminary assessment including statistical analysis of the data on the freeze and Dr. Clark advised that he will be happy to put this in the mail to the Commissioners as soon as there is a final version of the report which will be before the next Commission and will also put

it on the agenda. Chairman Pol stated that he thought this was a good idea as it is of interest to the commercial and recreational fisheries. Mr. Jenkins asked Dr. Clark if it was possible that shrimp boats fishing very close to the shore may be contributing to the problem of no spotted seatrout. Dr. Clark advised that there has been numerous bycatch studies done throughout the Gulf states and red drum and spotted seatrout almost never show up in a bycatch in shrimp trawls. 05

Mr. Jenkins stated that he would like to make a request of the Game Division. He has personally received a lot of phone calls on the dove season asking that a sixty day, fifteen bird season be considered as opposed to seventy and twelve. Mr. Jenkins would like to get some updated information before next season on whether people would really like to do this or not. Mr. Jones has had the same sort of inquiries. Secretary Van Sickle advised that this information will be transmitted to the Game Division.

There being no other business or public comments at Friday's meeting Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. A motion was made by Mr. Jenkins for adjournment of the July Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. McCall and passed unanimously.

Virginia Van Sickle
Secretary

VVS:sb